



## CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

Tuesday, October 20, 2015 7:00 p.m. Coon Rapids City Center Council Chambers

## Call to Order

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

### Roll Call

### **Proclamations/Presentations**

1. Stepping Stones Presentation

## **Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

2. Approve Minutes of October 6, 2015

## **Consent Agenda**

- 3. Adopt Resolution 15-117 and 15-118, Levying of Misc. 2015(2) Appeals
- 4. Approve Waiver of Christmas Tree Sales Fee for Boy Scout Troop 212
- 5. Approve Therapeutic Massage Enterprise License for Massage by Craig, 12685 Riverdale Blvd
- 6. Consider Additional Cost for Crooked Lake Treatment for Invasive Species
- 7. Approve City Manager's Office Staffing Changes

## **Public Hearing**

## **Bid Openings and Contract Awards**

#### **Old Business**

#### **New Business**

- 8. Appeal Board of Adjustment and Appeals Decision; Denial of Fence Setback Variance in PC 15-53V; John and Kathy Brandstetter; 10441 Goldenrod St.
- 9. Ordinance Introduction, Sale of Residential Lot, 11400 Hanson Blvd.
- 10. Consider Purchase of Rescue Trucks

## **Open Mic/Public Comment**

## **Reports on Previous Open Mic**

11. Dale Koch, 2020 127th Avenue

## **Other Business**

## <u>Adjourn</u>



City Council Regular 1.

**Meeting Date:** 10/20/2015

**Subject:** Stepping Stones Presentation **From:** Joan Lenzmeier, City Clerk

## **INTRODUCTION**

Julie Jeppson from Stepping Stones will be present to make a brief presentation to the City Council.

## **DISCUSSION**

## **RECOMMENDATION**



City Council Regular 2.

**Meeting Date:** 10/20/2015

**SUBJECT:** Approve Minutes of October 6, 2015

## **Attachments**

October 6, 2015 Minutes

#### **UNAPPROVED**

#### COON RAPIDS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 6, 2015

#### CALL TO ORDER

The first regular meeting of the Coon Rapids City Council for the month of October was called to order by Mayor Jerry Koch at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 6, 2015, in the Council Chambers.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Mayor Koch led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mayor Jerry Koch, Councilmembers Denise Klint, Ron Manning, Wade Demmer,

Jennifer Geisler, Brad Johnson and Steve Wells

Members Absent: None

#### ADOPT AGENDA

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER GEISLER SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DEMMER TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AS AMENDED TO INCLUDE ITEM 5A DOMINIUM RIVER NORTH TRAIL EASEMENT. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

None.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

#### 1. SEPTEMBER 15, 2015, COUNCIL MEETING

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MANNING, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WELLS, FOR APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 15, 2015, COUNCIL MEETING. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Page 2

#### CONSENT AGENDA/INFORMATIONAL BUSINESS

- 2. APPROVE JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF ANDOVER FOR CROOKED LAKE NO WAKE ORDINANCE
- 3. ADOPT RESOLUTION 15-115 LEVY OF 2015 DELINQUENT UTILITIES
- 4. ADOPT RESOLUTION 15-116 ACCEPTING GRANT FROM THE US DEPARTMENTOF JUSTICE
- 5. APPROVE EASEMENT FOR TURN LANE, 14XX COON RAPIDS BOULEVARD
- 5A. APPROVE TRAIL EASEMENT FOR DOMINIUM RIVER NORTH SENIOR APARTMENT PROJECT
- 6. APPROVE CANCELLATION OF PURCHASE AGREEMENT, 2260 COON RAPIDS BOULEVARD
- 7. AUTHORIZE APPLICATION FOR ANOKA COUNTY NON-RESIDENTIAL RECYCLING/ORGANICS GRANT
- 8. APPROVE TEMPORARY ON-SALE STRONG BEER AND WINE LIQUOR LICENSE FOR "DATE NIGHT" AT EPIPHANY CHURCH
- 9. APPROVE FINAL PAYMENT FOR PROJECT 14-9, RIVERVIEW PARK REDEVELOPMENT

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER GEISLER, FOR APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### PUBLIC HEARING

10. HOLD PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDER ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 15-111 RESCINDING FINAL PLAT APPROVAL FOR TYLERS COVE (PLANNING CASE 13-31)

The Staff report was shared with Council.

Mayor Koch opened and closed the public hearing at 7:10 p.m. since no one appeared to address the Council.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER GEISLER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DEMMER, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 15-111 RESCINDING FINAL PLAT APPROVAL FOR TYLERS COVE. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### BID OPENINGS AND CONTRACT AWARDS

None.

#### **UNAPPROVED**

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

11. CONSIDER ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 2147 RESTRICTING PARKING ON LILY STREET NW

The Staff report was shared with Council.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER KLINT, TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE RESTRICTING PARKING ON THE WEST SIDE OF LILY STREET FROM 113TH AVENUE NW TO 115TH AVENUE NW, EXTENDING ALONG THE SOUTHSIDE OF THE CURVE THAT CONNECTS LILY STREET TO 113TH AVENUE, AS WELL AS APPROXIMATELY 50 FEET ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF 113TH AVENUE. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. CONSIDER ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 2148 RESTRICTING PARKING ON BUTTERNUT STREET NW

The Staff report was shared with Council.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER GEISLER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DEMMER, TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE RESTRICTING PARKING ON BOTH SIDES OF BUTTERNUT STREET NW FROM 101ST AVENUE NW TO A DISTANCE 50 FEET SOUTH. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

13. PC 15-28: CONSIDER USE FLEXIBILITY FOR TRANSITIONAL HOUSING, HOPE 4 YOUTH, 80 COON RAPIDS BOULEVARD

The Staff report was shared with Council.

Hope 4 Youth representatives, explained that this site would assist young people with a safe place to stay. He then discussed the advantage of having a network of host homes available to assist younger homeless youth. He believed this was the right thing for younger youth to be in homes that model kind and caring relationships.

## City Council Meeting Minutes October 6, 2015 Page 4

#### **UNAPPROVED**

Hope 4 Youth, reported that he visited five youth shelters and found their models were more for emergency services. He commented that Hope 4 Youth would offer a different model as there would be adult supervision, mentors, rules and consistency. He indicated units would be leased by the youth and would become their own personal space.

Commissioner Wells believed that three years was a really long time. He asked if tenants would be evicted after they turned 24. Hope 4 Youth reported that HUD defined a homeless use as anyone from the age of 16 to 25. Hope 4 Youth explained that the average stay for youth in transitional housing was 18 months. It would be the facilities goal to encourage and mentor the youth in order for them to transition out of the site in order for more youth to be helped.

Councilmember Klint questioned how the youth would be able to pay for their rent and utilities. Hope 4 Youth commented the rent would be based on the youth's ability to pay and would escalate over time if the youth received more hours/pay.

Councilmember Johnson thanked Hope 4 Youth for their thorough presentation and for the detailed information provided to the Council. He understood there was a need for transitional housing for youth and supported Hope 4 Youth coming into the City of Coon Rapids. He inquired if the homeless youth would have to be based out of Anoka County. Hope 4 Youth explained that all tenants would be Anoka County residents.

Councilmember Klint asked if the site would be secure. Hope 4 Youth reported that the site would be secure and tenants could only have one visitor at a time.

Councilmember Geisler fully supported the proposed housing and believed their model would teach homeless youth how to be self-sufficient and contributing members to the community.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WELLS, TO APPROVE USE FLEXIBILITY FOR A TRANSITIONAL HOUSING FACILITY FOR 12 RESIDENTS LOCATED AT 80 COON RAPIDS BOULEVARD WITH THE FOLLOWING FINDINGS:

1) THE REQUEST MEETS THE INTENT OF THE SECTION IN THAT THE PROJECT WILL AID IN PROTECTING THE HEALTH, SAFETY AND PUBLIC WELFARE OF THE YOUTH IN THE COMMUNITY BY PROVIDING A SAFE LIVING ENVIRONMENT ALONG WITH TRAINING AND SUPPORT NEEDED TO BECOME SELF SUFFICIENT. THE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING FACILITY WILL PROVIDE A MIX OF USES WITHIN THE AREA. THE PROPOSED USE WILL SERVE THE NEEDS OF NEARBY NEIGHBORHOODS AND WILL FOSTER A SENSE COMMUNITY BY WORKING WITH NEARBY BUSINESSES ON TRAINING AND HIRING PROGRAMS FOR RESIDENTS.

## City Council Meeting Minutes October 6, 2015

Page 5

#### **UNAPPROVED**

- 2) THE REQUEST WILL DEVELOP THE PROPERTY IN AN EFFICIENT AND WELL ORGANIZED WAY. THE SITE HAS BEEN VACANT FOR SEVERAL YEARS. ACCESS IS DIFFICULT, THERE IS A RIGHT-IN ONLY AVAILABLE FROM COON RAPIDS BOULEVARD, MAKING IT DIFFICULT TO FIND COMMERCIAL TENANTS. THE PROPOSED USE IS NOT DEPENDENT ON EASY ACCESS OR HIGH VISIBILITY, MAKING IT GOOD FIT FOR THIS SITE. THE PROPOSAL WILL UTILIZE THE EXISTING PARKING AND BUILDING.
- 3) THE APPLICANT WILL BE MAKE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE SITE TO ENHANCE ITS APPEARANCE. ON THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE SITE WILL BE A PATIO AREA, BASKETBALL COURT AND A LAWN AREA. THE EXTERIOR OF THE BUILDING WILL BE REPAINTED AND A LANDSCAPED AREA INSTALLED AT THE FRONT ENTRANCE. BIKES RACKS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE. NEW SIGNAGE IS PROPOSED AND WILL REQUIRE A SEPARATE PERMIT.
- 4) THE REQUEST DOES NOT DETRACT FROM USES IN THE PORT DISTRICT. THE SITEIS SEPARATED FROM PORT EVERGREEN BY HIGHWAY 47 AND THE HIGHWAY 47/COON RAPIDS BOULEVARD INTERCHANGE.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### OPEN MIC/PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Koch reviewed the rules of order for the Open Mic/Public Comment portion of the meeting.

Dale Koch 2020 127<sup>th</sup> Ave NW, commented that the former Manager Matt Fulton received a \$500 per month car allowance. Mr. Koch expressed concern that Council approved a separation agreement with Mr. Fulton that included a separation payment.

Carrie Schaff, 11832 Undercliff, reported that she was so proud to be a resident of Coon Rapids. She thanked the Council and Mayor for supporting Hope 4 Youth.

Greg Nelson, 9950 Redwood Street NW, invited each of the Councilmembers to visit Hope 4 Youth to see the great work being done in the community. He encouraged residents in the community to consider volunteer at Hope 4 Youth.

Councilmember Manning thanked Hope 4 Youth for their efforts to improve the Community.

#### REPORTS ON PREVIOUS OPEN MIC

City Council Meeting Minutes October 6, 2015 Page 6

**UNAPPROVED** 

None.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Geisler thanked the numerous residents present in support of Hope 4 Youth. She appreciated all of their efforts and the engagement they have in creating a better the community.

Councilmember Klint requested staff provide the Council with the status on several properties in the City.

Councilmember Klint asked how the City went about naming rights for park benches within parks. She believed this matter should be addressed at a future worksession meeting.

Councilmember Johnson thanked the Fire Department for their work on September 11<sup>th</sup>. It was his hope that this program would continue in the future. Fire Chief Piper appreciated the kind words. He stated the Fire Department was now working with local elementary schools as this week was fire prevention week. Students were encouraged to "Hear the Beep, While They Sleep" stressing the importance of working smoke detectors. He then reviewed the activities that would be held at each of Coon Rapids Fire Stations on Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Koch requested an update on the Bunker Hills Golf Course. Bunker Hills Golf Director Anderson provided the Council with an update on the new restaurant name and the events taking place at the golf course.

Public Works Director Himmer reported Burlington Northern would be closing the crossing at 119<sup>th</sup> Avenue just west of Northdale Boulevard for track improvements all day on Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>.

ADJOURN	
	EISLER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DEMMER. 29 P.M. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
ATTEST:	Jerry Koch, Mayor
Joan Lenzmeier, City Clerk	



City Council Regular 3.

**Meeting Date:** 10/20/2015

**Subject:** Adopt Resolution 15-117 and 15-118, Levying of Misc. 2015(2) Appeals

From: Heidi Cederstrand, Assessment

Clerk II

## **INTRODUCTION**

The recommendations of the Board of Adjustment and Appeals on contested miscellaneous special assessments are referred to the City Council for adoption.

## **DISCUSSION**

The assessment hearing on miscellaneous assessments was held on August 5, 2015. Property owners who were objecting to their assessments were referred to the Board of Adjustment and Appeals for review at their meeting on October 1. After the Board of Adjustment and Appeals heard objections on October 1, 2015, the following recommendations have been made:

Case #	Address/PIN# Assessment(s)		Board of Adj. Recommendation	
15-28V	Usman Mian 1290 105th Avenue NW 23-31-24-24-0074	Citation Fee-Mowing/Weed-\$335	Affirmed-\$335	
15-29V	Raymond Warren Jr. 2170 108th Avenue NW 22-31-24-21-0015	Citation Fee-Parking Off Pavement-\$335	Affirmed-\$335	
15-30V	Nera Muratovic 12334 Norway Street NW 12-31-27-22-0037	Citation Fee-Parking Off Pavement-\$335 Citation Fee-Parking Off Pavement-\$635	Affirmed-\$970	
15-31V	Liquenda Allotey 1040 105th Avenue NW 23-31-24-42-0037	Citation Fee-No Rental License-\$335 Citation Fee-No Rental License-\$635 Citation Fee-No Rental License-\$1,235	Affirmed-\$2,205	
15-32V	Katie and Anthony Ficocello 11434 North Heights Drive NW 16-31-24-42-0037	Citation Fee-Mowing/Weed-\$335	Affirmed-\$335	
15-33V	Andrea Waytashek 9748 Foley Blvd. NW 25-31-24-24-0019	Citation Fee-Removal & Disposal-\$335 Citation Fee-Removal & Disposal-\$335	Removed-\$0	
15-34V	Michael Grover 10740 Grouse Street NW 22-31-24-11-0016	Citation Fee-Mowing/Weed-\$335	Affirmed-\$335	

15-35V	Charles Okusanya 1562 119th Lane NW 11-31-24-32-0102	th Lane NW Citation Fee-Mowing/Weed-\$185	
15-36V	Chad Morgan 11021 Olive Street NW 14-31-24-44-0032	Citation Fee-Rental Housing Training-\$335 Citation Fee-Rental Housing Training-\$635	Affirmed-\$970
15-37V	Nancy Skager 10324 Hollywood Blvd. NW 21-31-24-42-0078	Citation Fee-Mowing/Weed-\$335 Citation Fee-Expired Tabs-\$335 Citation Fee-Expired Tabs-\$635 Citation Fee-Removal & Disposal-\$335 Citation Fee-Parking Off Pavement-\$335	Affirmed-\$1,975
15-38V	Cheryl Lee Upton/Charles Dodge 10885 Osage Street NW 22-31-24-21-0057	Citation Fee-No Rental License-\$335 Citation Fee-No Rental License -\$635 Citation Fee-No Rental License -\$1,235 Citation Fee-No Rental License -\$2,435	Removed-\$0
15-39V	Jason & Ronda Twaddle 10558 Martin Street NW 22-31-24-13-0104	Citation Fee-Removal & Disposal-\$335 Removal & Disposal-\$342.50	Affirmed-\$677.50
15-40V	Andrew Gordon 3356 115th Lane NW 17-31-24-11-0107	Citation Fee-Mowing/Weed-\$335	Affirmed-\$335
15-41V	Jeremy Gordon 9938 Cottonwood Street NW 25-31-24-11-0066	Citation Fee-Parking Off Pavement-\$335 Citation Fee-Truck & Trailer Storage-\$335 Citation Fee-Location Of Garbage-\$335	Affirmed-\$1,005
15-42V	Jeff & Gloria Emmerich 12912 Marigold Street NW 05-31-24-14-0011	Citation Fee-No Rental License-\$335	Affirmed-\$335
15-43V	Jeff & Gloria Emmerich 3749 123rd Lane NW 08-31-24-21-0063	Citation Fee-No Rental License-\$335	Affirmed-\$335
15-44V	Jeff & Gloria Emmerich 11900 Orchid Street NW 08-31-24-42-0040	Citation Fee-No Rental License-\$335	Affirmed-\$335
15-45V	Nancy Pham 150 Northdale Blvd. NW 13-31-24-42-0072	Citation Fee-Removal & Disposal-\$335 Removal & Disposal-\$747	Reduced to \$970
15-46V	Heidi & Charles Meade 10348 Xavis Street NW 21-31-24-41-0007	Citation Fee-No Rental License-\$335 Citation Fee-No Rental License-\$635	Affirmed-\$970
15-47V	Brianna Robinson 2263 110th Lane NW 15-31-24-33-0056	Citation Fee-Mowing/Weed-\$185	Affirmed-\$185
15-48V	Citi Mortgage Inc. 798 Northdale Blvd. NW 14-31-24-11-0015	Citation Fee-Removal & Disposal-\$2,435 Citation Fee-Vacant Monitoring-\$635	Affirmed-\$3,070

	Carla Itie 10253 Mississippi Blvd. NW 21-31-24-43-0003	Citation Fee-Expired Tabs-\$335 Citation Fee-Expired Tabs-\$335	Affirmed-\$670
1	Mary Muller 10424 Xavis Street NW 21-31-24-41-0013	Citation Fee-Expired Tabs-\$335	Affirmed-\$335
15-51V	Will Ziehurt 2900 109th Lane NW 16-31-24-34-0049	Citation Fee-Mowing/Weed-\$335	Removed-\$0
15-52V	Marvin Hanson 10841 Kumquat Street NW 24-31-24-21-0100	Citation Fee-Removal & Disposal-\$335 Removal & Disposal-\$772	Affirmed-\$1,107

Please refer to previously distributed Board packets for appeal letters. The Board agenda for October 1 was sent to Council separately on September 25, 2015. If you need information concerning that agenda, please contact Joan Lenzmeier. An assessment fee of \$35.00 has been included in the recommendation totals above. An updated amount will be distributed on October 20, and affected resolutions will be completed at that time.

#### RECOMMENDATION

The Board of Adjustment and Appeals recommends that the Council adopt Resolutions 15-117 and 15-118 adopting 2015(2) Miscellaneous Special Assessments (contested miscellaneous assessments-one year, and three-year).

#### **Attachments**

MISC. 2015(2) APPEALS-1 YEAR MISC. 2015(2)-APPEALS-3 YEAR

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 15-117**

# RESOLUTION ADOPTING 2015 (2) CONTESTED MISCELLANEOUS ASSESSMENTS (ONE YEAR)

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to property notice duly given as required by law, the City Council has met and heard and passed upon all objections to the proposed assessment for the nonpayment of invoices; and

**WHEREAS**, this declaration is made pursuant to Section 1.103-18 of the Income Tax Regulations of the Internal Revenue Service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Coon Rapids, Minnesota that

- 1. Such proposed assessment, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part thereof, is hereby accepted and shall constitute the special assessment against the lands named therein, and each tract of land therein included is hereby found to be benefited by the proposed improvement in the amount of the assessment levied against it.
- 2. Such assessments shall become payable in annual installments, commencing with the first Monday in January 2016, and shall bear interest at the rate of 1.25% per annum from the date of the adoption of this assessment resolution. To the installment shall be added interest on the entire assessment from the date of this resolution until December 31, 2016. The total amount of the one-year assessment is \$.
- 3. The owner of any property so assessed may, at any time prior to certification of the assessment to the Director of the Anoka County Records and Taxation Division (but no later than November 14, 2015), pay the whole of the assessment on such property, with interest accrued to the date of payment, to the City Treasurer, except that no interest shall be charged if the entire assessment is paid within thirty (30) days from the adoption of this resolution. He/she may, at any time thereafter, pay to the City Treasurer the entire amount of the assessment remaining unpaid, with interest accrued through the date of payment. However, such payment must be made no later than November 14 or interest will be charged through December 31 of the next succeeding year.
- 4. The Clerk shall forthwith transmit a certified duplicate of this assessment to the County Property Records and Taxation Division to be extended on the proper tax lists of the County, and such assessments shall be collected and paid over in the same manner as other municipal taxes.

Adopted by the Coon Rapids City Council this 20th day of October 2015.

Jerry Koch, Mayor

ATTEST:

Joan Lenzmeier, City Clerk

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 15-118**

# RESOLUTION ADOPTING 2015 (2) CONTESTED MISCELLANEOUS ASSESSMENTS (THREE YEAR)

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to property notice duly given as required by law, the City Council has met and heard and passed upon all objections to the proposed assessment for the nonpayment of invoices; and

**WHEREAS**, this declaration is made pursuant to Section 1.103-18 of the Income Tax Regulations of the Internal Revenue Service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Coon Rapids, Minnesota that

- 1. Such proposed assessment, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part thereof, is hereby accepted and shall constitute the special assessment against the lands named therein, and each tract of land therein included is hereby found to be benefited by the proposed improvement in the amount of the assessment levied against it.
- 2. Such assessments shall become payable in annual installments, commencing with the first Monday in January 2016, and shall bear interest at the rate of 2.05% per annum from the date of the adoption of this assessment resolution. To the installment shall be added interest on the entire assessment from the date of this resolution until December 31, 2016. The total amount of the three-year assessment is \$.
- 3. The owner of any property so assessed may, at any time prior to certification of the assessment to the Director of the Anoka County Records and Taxation Division (but no later than November 14, 2015), pay the whole of the assessment on such property, with interest accrued to the date of payment, to the City Treasurer, except that no interest shall be charged if the entire assessment is paid within thirty (30) days from the adoption of this resolution. He/she may, at any time thereafter, pay to the City Treasurer the entire amount of the assessment remaining unpaid, with interest accrued through the date of payment. However, such payment must be made no later than November 14 or interest will be charged through December 31 of the next succeeding year.
- 4. The Clerk shall forthwith transmit a certified duplicate of this assessment to the County Property Records and Taxation Division to be extended on the proper tax lists of the County, and such assessments shall be collected and paid over in the same manner as other municipal taxes.

Adopted by the	Coon Rapids Ci	ty Council this	20th day (	of October 2015.	
ATTEST:			Jerry	Koch, Mayor	

Joan Lenzmeier, City Clerk



City Council Regular 4.

**Meeting Date:** 10/20/2015

**Subject:** Approve Waiver of Christmas Tree Sales Fee for Boy Scout Troop 212

**From:** Stephanie Lincoln, Deputy City

Clerk

## **INTRODUCTION**

Jim Baham, on behalf of Boy Scout Troop 212, has requested Council consider a waiver of the \$79 license fee for operating a Christmas Tree lot.

## **DISCUSSION**

Boy Scout Troop 212 have submitted an application to operate a Christmas Tree lot at 1919 Coon Rapids Blvd. The Troop has requested this in years past and the Council has always granted the waiver. The Boy Scouts are a non-profit organization.

## RECOMMENDATION

Approve waiver of \$79 license fee for Boy Scout Troop 212 to operate a Christmas Tree lot at 1919 Coon Rapids Blvd.



City Council Regular 5.

**Meeting Date:** 10/20/2015

**Subject:** Approve Therapeutic Massage Enterprise License for Massage by Craig, 12685 Riverdale

Blvd

**From:** Stephanie Lincoln, Deputy City

Clerk

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Craig Andrew Benton of Massage by Craig has submitted an application for a Therapeutic Massage Enterprise license for use at 12685 Riverdale Blvd.

#### **DISCUSSION**

Mr. Benton has leased space from the business of Salons by JC in the building at 12685 Riverdale Blvd and paid the background investigation and license fee for a Therapeutic Massage Enterprise License. The Police Department is currently conducting a background investigation.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Council is requested to approve the issuance of a Therapeutic Massage Enterprise license to Mr. Benton for Massage by Craig located at 12685 Riverdale Blvd, pending a successful background investigation.



City Council Regular 6.

**Meeting Date:** 10/20/2015

**Subject:** Consider Additional Cost for Crooked Lake Treatment for Invasive Species

**Submitted For:** Tim Himmer, Public Works Director

From: Sarah Greene, Administrative Assistant II

#### **INTRODUCTION**

City staff is seeking City Council authorization for an additional expenditure to assist with the invasive vegetation treatment program on Crooked Lake.

#### **DISCUSSION**

The City of Coon Rapids has historically participated in vegetation treatment on Crooked Lake in partnership with the City of Andover and the Crooked Lake Area Association (CLAA). The existing agreement requires CLAA to contract (and pay for) the investigation and preparation of a pre-treatment assessment of the lake, which is then submitted to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for review and permitting. Once approved, treatment of the lake can occur by application of chemicals. CLAA has always handled the contracting for the treatments, but the Cities of Coon Rapids and Andover have split the costs of the applications. Following treatment, CLAA was then responsible to contract (and pay for) a follow up assessment of the lake to determine effectiveness of the treatment. In total these activities account for approximately \$7,000 in contracted work; Coon Rapids and Andover would pay approximately \$2,000 each, and the CLAA would be responsible for the remaining \$3,000 in charges.

Recent discussions in Andover have resulted in the desire to potentially redistribute the costs of these treatments to cover a percentage of all associated costs (vs. treatment costs only). The current proposal for City Council discussion and consideration is to take the total costs for all associated work and split them 40 - 40 - 20 (Coon Rapids - Andover - CLAA). This would result is costs to each entity in the amount of \$2,800 Coon Rapids, \$2,800 Andover, and \$1,400 CLAA. These costs are approximate; recent invoicing from CLAA is attached to this memo and show the actual costs of the treatment only vs. redistribution of the entire program. The cost of a treatment program will fluctuate each year depending on the pretreatment assessment findings, but the intent to get the invasive species (primarily eurasian milfoil) under control to a point that a maintenance program can be sustained at a reasonable level.

The lake is currently in the third year of a five year maintenance plan. Upon completion the Cities will meet with the DNR and CLAA to determine effectiveness of this five year program, discuss future needs, analyze other attributes of the lake, and plan for next steps. At that time additional information will be presented to the City Council as an update and to discuss future planning. In the past, Coon Rapids' contribution to the program was approximately \$2,000 and was included in the annual budget and funded from the Stormwater Utility Fund. CLAA is now asking for concurrence on the new approach to program funding splits, and is requesting reimbursement of this new invoice.

#### RECOMMENDATION

City staff recommends approval of the updated invoice for invasive vegetation treatments on Crooked Lake. It further recommends the redistribution of program funding to cover 40% of all associated costs through the term of the current five year lake management plan.

## **BUDGET IMPACT:**

Funding for this item will come from the Stormwater Utility Fund and be budgeted for annually.

## **Attachments**

<u>Treatment Only Invoice</u> 40% Program Split Invoice





## **INVOICE**

August 1, 2015

Invoice # 62415-2

To: City of Coon Rapids 11155 Robinson Drive Coon Rapids, MN 55433 Remit to: Crooked Lake Area Association 13415 Heather St. NW Andover, MN 55304

Terms: net 30

Due Date: August 25, 2015

<b>Quantity</b>	Description		Price
1 Lot	Treatment of Crooked Lake for invasive plant spec (Eurasian Water Milfoil) Application performed by Lake Restoration, Rogers, MN on June 24, 2015.	ies	\$1985.65
	Lake Restoration cost	\$3971.30 X .50	
	City of Coon Rapids 50% portion -	1985.65	

Coon Rapids Engineering			
Date received	9/11/15		
Quantity OK			
Price & Ext OK			
Approved by			
Account No	64076.6273		





August 1, 2015

Mr. Tim Himmer, Director of Public Works City of Coon Rapids 11155 Robinson Drive Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Re: Crooked Lake Water Quality/Invasive Plant Species Treatment

Dear Mr. Himmer:

This year's herbicide treatment to contain invasive plant species, Eurasian water milfoil (EWM), occurred on June 24, 2015, at a cost of \$3971.30. Historically, the cost for these treatments has been shared 50 – 50 by the cities of Coon Rapids and Andover. And Coon Rapids has always been supportive of our efforts as a lake association to preserve and protect Crooked Lake. We are most appreciative.

Based on a 50 – 50 cost sharing by the cities of Coon Rapids and Andover, Coon Rapids and Andover's share is \$1985.65 (invoice copy attached). Would you please process the attached invoice #62415-2 in reimbursement to the Crooked Lake Area Association? (The CLAA has paid the applicator – Lake Restoration of Rogers, MN.)

Our Lake Vegetation Management Plan (LVMP) was completed two years ago with professional guidance and in compliance with DNR guidelines. Among the requirements of this LVMP are that we contract for a pretreatment "delineation report" (\$930.00 this year), and also contract for a post-treatment "point intercept aquatic plant survey" (\$1750.00 this year). CLAA pays for these reports on its own. These two reports are used by the DNR to assist in its determination of where to treat for aquatic invasive species. This past treatment was for 7 different areas in the lake totaling 26.3 acres.

Thank you for your help and cooperation in our efforts to maintain and improve Crooked Lake as a vital community resource.

Yours trub

President, CLAA

reson

Mum



Invoice

Invoice Number: 131827

Invoice Date: Jun 26, 2015

Voice: Fax: 763-428-9777 763-428-1543

Sold To:

Gary Nereson Crooked Lake Association 13415 Heather St NW Andover, MN 55304 Ship to:

Crooked Lake

Customer ID	Lake/Pond Name	Purchase Order #	
CROOKEDLAKE	Crooked		
Sales Rep ID	County	Terms	Due Date
	Anoka *	Net 30	7/26/15

Quantity	Item	Description	Unit Price	Extension
	EWM	Eurasian Watermilfoil Treatment, Plot 1: 1.7 acres	151.00	256.70
	The state of the s	treated on June 24		
2.20	EWM	Eurasian Watermilfoil Treatment; Plot 2: 2.2 acres	151.00	332.20
		treated on June 24		
1.20	EWM	Eurasian Watermilfoil Treatment; Plot 3: 1.2 acres	151.00	181.20
	N.	treated on June 24		
4.10	EWM	Eurasian Watermilfoil Treatment; Plot 4: 4.1 acres	151.00	619.10
	The state of the s	treated on June 24		24245
4.10	EWM	Eurasian Watermilfoil Treatment; Plot 5: 4.1 acres	151.00	619.10
		treated on June 24	454.00	705.00
5.20	EWM	Eurasian Watermilfoil Treatment; Plot 6: 5.2 acres	151.00	785.20
į		treated on June 24	454.00	000.00
5.30	EWM	Eurasian Watermilfoil Treatment, Plot 7: 5.3 acres	151.00	800.30
		treated on June 24	454.00	277.50
2.50	EWM	Eurasian Watermilfoil Treatment; Plot 8: 2.5 acres	151.00	377.50
		treated on June 24		
	1		Subtotal	2 074 00

Subtotal 3,971.30
Sales Tax
Total Invoice Amoun 3,971.30
Payment Received
TOTAL DUE 3,971.30

Check No:

## You can now pay online @ www.lakerestoration.com

Overdue invoices are subject to late charges of 1.5% per month.

singesota Startoires



## **INVOICE**

September 9, 2015

Invoice # 62415-2 Rev.

To: City of Coon Rapids 11155 Robinson Drive Coon Rapids, MN 55433 Remit to: Crooked Lake Area Association 13415 Heather St. NW Andover, MN 55304

Terms: net 30

Due Date: September 25, 2015

Quantity	Description		Price
1 Lot	Treatment of Crooked Lake for invasive plan (Eurasian Water Milfoil) – plus MNDNR requ	\$2808.64	
	Application performed by Lake Restoration, Rogers, MN on June 24, 2015.	Cost \$3971.30	
	Delineation report (MNDNR Reqmnt.) by Fre Services, LLC - May 19, 2015	eshwater Scientific Cost \$930.00	
	Delineation report (MNDNR Reqmnt.) by Fr Services, LLC – June 3, 2015	reshwater Scientific Cost \$250.00	
	Point Intercept Survey (MNDNR Reqmnt.) b Services, Inc August 18, 2015	oy Clarke Aquatic Cost \$1870.31	
	TOTAL C	OSTS - \$7021.61	

TOTAL COSTS - \$7021.61 \_<u>X 40%</u> \$2808.64



Voice: Fax:

763-428-9777 763-428-1543

## Invoice

Invoice Number: 131827

Invoice Date: Jun 26, 2015

Sold To:

Gary Nereson Crooked Lake Association 13415 Heather St NW Andover, MN 55304 Ship to:

Crooked Lake

Customer ID	Lake/Pond Name	Purchase	e Order #
CROOKEDLAKE	Crooked		
Sales Rep ID	County	Terms	Due Date
•	Anoka *	Net 30	7/26/15

Quantity	Item	Description	Unit Price	Extension
	EWM	Eurasian Watermilfoil Treatment; Plot 1: 1.7 acres	151.00	256.70
		treated on June 24		
2.20	EWM	Eurasian Watermilfoil Treatment; Plot 2: 2.2 acres	151.00	332.20
- statement of the stat		treated on June 24		
1.20	EWM	Eurasian Watermilfoil Treatment; Plot 3: 1.2 acres	151.00	181.20
	3	treated on June 24	4=400	0.10.10
4.10	EWM	Eurasian Watermilfoil Treatment; Plot 4: 4.1 acres	151.00	619.10
The same of the sa		treated on June 24	454.00	04040
4.10	EWM	Eurasian Watermilfoil Treatment; Plot 5: 4.1 acres	151.00	619.10
		treated on June 24	454.00	705.00
5.20	EWM	Eurasian Watermilfoil Treatment; Plot 6: 5.2 acres	151.00	785.20
,	prom 1 2 7% (F	treated on June 24	454.00	200.00
5.30	EWM	Eurasian Watermilfoil Treatment; Plot 7: 5.3 acres	151.00	800.30
0.50		treated on June 24	151.00	377.50
2.50	EWM	Eurasian Watermilfoil Treatment; Plot 8: 2.5 acres	151.00	377.30
		treated on June 24		

Subtotal 3,971.30
Sales Tax
Total Invoice Amoun 3,971.30
Payment Received
TOTAL DUE 3,971.30

Check No:

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## INVOICE #2015-12

1 PROJECT

**Eurasian Watermilfoil Delineation Survey** 

Client: Crooked Lake Area Association

2

#### **COMPLETED SERVICES**

Services	Completed	Cost
Spring EWM delineation survey	5/19/2015	\$ 930
Delivery of delineation report	5/21/2015	Included
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE		\$ 930

3

#### **PAYMENT**

 Invoice #:
 2015-12

 Amount Due:
 \$ 930

 Date Due:
 June 30, 2015

Send full payment for the amount due to our office by the indicated due date. We will assess a 1.5% late fee for each month left unpaid.

Freshwater Scientific Services, LLC 18029 83rd Ave N Maple Grove, MN 55311-1761

18029 83rd Avenue North Maple Grove, MN 55311 james@freshwatersci.com (651) 336-8696

## INVOICE #2015-21

1 PROJECT

**Curlyleaf Pondweed Delineation Survey (Late-Spring)** 

Client: Crooked Lake Area Association

COMPLETED SERVICES

Services	Completed	Cost
Spring CLP delineation survey Delivery of delineation report	6/3/2015 6/4/2015	\$ 250 Included
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE		\$ 250

**I** PAYMENT

Invoice #: 2015-21
Amount Due: \$ 250
Date Due: June 30, 2015

Send full payment for the amount due to our office by the indicated due date. We will assess a 1.5% late fee for each month left unpaid.

Freshwater Scientific Services, LLC 18029 83rd Ave N Maple Grove, MN 55311-1761

## INVOICE

Page: 1(1) TOLL-FREE: 800-323-5727 PHONE: 630-894-2000 AR Email: accountsreceivable@clarke.com, AR Dept. Ext.: 3139

Payment Instructions: Clarke Aquatic Services, Inc.

Electronic: Bank of America - Account: 8666607118 - Routing: 071000039

Check: 16308 Collections Center Drive, Chicago, IL 60693

Customer#

**GO CLOCKE** 

088749

Invoice # 3223382 Invoice Date 08/19/15 Terms Net 30 Days Due Date 09/18/15

Crooked Lake Area Association В 13415 Heather St. NW 1

L

L

Andover, MN 55304 Т Attn: Gary Nereson 0

**Service Order** A005359675 / 1

Agreement no 0000523532

Consultant Rob Olson

Job Date

Description

Total

08/18/15

W9's can be found on our website at www.clarke.com

Order total

1,750.00

Sales Tax

120.31

Clarke Aquatic Services, Inc. is a Clarke Company

We accept ACH Payments \*\*\*

Total:

1,870.31



City Council Regular 7.

**Meeting Date:** 10/20/2015

**Subject:** Approve City Manager's Office Staffing Changes

From: Matt Stemwedel, City Manager

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The City Manager is considering staffing changes for the City Manager's Office, one of which requires City Council action.

#### **DISCUSSION**

After consideration on how to fill the vacant Assistant City Manager position, the City Manager has decided to begin a recruitment for an Assistant to the City Manager position and is proposing to adjust a current part-time Human Resources Technician position to full-time. The change to an Assistant to the City Manager position would not require Council consideration; however, it is requested that Council approve the change to the Human Resources Technician position since it was not included in the approved 2015 City budget.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the City Council approve adjusting the part-time Human Resources Technician position to a full-time, benefit earning position.

#### **BUDGET IMPACT:**

It is expected that there will be budget savings as a result of the position changes of approximately \$9,000-\$14,000 on an annualized basis. Changing the Human Resources position from a 28 hours per week position to full-time will cost approximately \$26,000 in additional wages and benefits. However, this cost is more than offset by the \$35,000 to \$40,000 in savings expected from changing the Assistant City Manager position to an Assistant to the City Manager position.



City Council Regular 8.

**Meeting Date:** 10/20/2015

**Subject:** Appeal Board of Adjustment and Appeals Decision; Denial of Fence Setback Variance in

PC 15-53V; John and Kathy Brandstetter; 10441 Goldenrod St.

**From:** Scott Harlicker, Planner

#### **INTRODUCTION**

John and Kathy Brandstetter are appealing a Board of Adjustment and Appeals decision denying a three foot fence setback varaince to locate a fence at the right-of-way line of 104th Lane NW where a three foot setback is required.

#### **DISCUSSION**

During the Foley Boulevard reconstruction project, a previously existing wood privacy fence was removed from the applicant's lot in the area where additional right-of-way was acquired. The applicant would like to rebuild the fence within a portion of the new right-of-way and along the new right-of-way boundary. Anoka County acquired approximately two feet of additional right-of-way along 104th Lane.

The staff case report, Board meeting minutes and related materials are attached. Following their deliberation, the Board denied the variance, as they were unable to make the findings necessary to approve a variance as required by City Code Section 11-1304.9(2), Standards for Approval (attached). In denying the variance, the Board adopted a Statement of Reasons for Denial (attached). Included in this statement, the Board determined that a fence located on the property line is not in keeping with the general purpose and intent of the setback ordinance, that the petitioner had not demonstrated that the variance sought was a minimum variance necessary and that the property can be used in a reasonable manner without the granting of a variance.

The City Council is held to the same City Code standards for approval when considering a variance. However, Council may find that the request does, in fact, meet those standards and approve the variance. Conditions may be imposed on the granting of a variance. In accordance with Minnesota statutes, any condition "must be directly related to and bear a rough proportionality to the impact caused by the variance."

The Brandstetter's written appeal is attached. They offer rationale in support of the variance that addresses the Board's findings for denial.

Council may deny the appeal and uphold the Board's decision, or it may grant the appeal and thereby grant the variance. To overturn the decision of the Board of Adjustment and Appeals, an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members of Council is required.

#### RECOMMENDATION

In Case 15-53V, if Council finds the standards for approving a variance have not been satisfied, the Council should act to uphold the decision of the Board of Adjustment and Appeals.

If Council determines that the standards for approval for granting a variance have been satisfied, Council may overturn the Board's decision with an affirmative vote of five members.

## **Attachments**

Location Map

**BAA Case Report** 

Aerial Photo

Applicant's Proposal

Applicant's Narrative

**BAA Minutes** 

Applicant's Appeal

Statement of Reasons for Denial

City Code Variance Standards for Approval

## Location Map





**Board of Adjustment and Appeals - Regular** 

Session

**Meeting Date:** 10/01/2015

**Subject:** PC-53V; John and Kathy Bandstetter, Petitioners; Fence Setback Variance; 10441

1.

Goldenrod Street

**From:** Cheryl Bennett, Housing and

**Zoning Coordinator** 

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The applicant is requesting a three-foot setback variance from City Code Section 11-1204.3(2) to locate a fence at the right-of-way line of 104<sup>th</sup> Lane NW where a three-foot setback is required.

### **ACTIONS**

Conduct a Public Hearing
Decision by Board of Adjustment and Appeals
Appeal available to the City Council

#### **60-DAY RULE**

The application was received by at City offices on August 31, 2015. To comply with the requirements of Minnesota Statute §15.99, the City must take action by October 30, 2015.

## **DISCUSSION**

#### Background

The subject property is located at 10441 Goldenrod Street. It is zoned Low Density Residential 2, a single-family residential zoning district. The property was platted as part of Forestwood Addition in 1979. The single-family residence was constructed in 1980. The lot and structure met City Code requirements at the time of development.

The boundary lines of the subject property include the rights-of-way for Foley Boulevard on the east, 104th Lane NW on the north and Goldenrod Street, a cul-de-sac, to the west. Foley Boulevard, between Highway 10 and Egret Boulevard, was reconstructed in 2014/2015 resulting in a taking of permanent easements for additional right-of-way along both Foley Boulevard and 104 th Lane NW. To the rear of the lot, along Foley Boulevard, Anoka County Highway Department took an additional 4.76 feet of right-of-way. Adjacent to 104th Lane NW, which was terminated in a cul-de-sac adjacent to the applicant's rear yard, two feet of additional right-of-way was taken along the rear 60 feet of the applicant's lot. (The right-of-way taking is shown in blue on the aerial photograph attached to this report.) The taking was completed through condemnation action in which the property owner was awarded compensation for the taking and costs for replacement of the fence.

During the Foley Boulevard reconstruction project, a previously existing wood privacy fence was removed from the applicant's lot in the areas where additional rights-of-way were acquired. When the original fence was constructed, City Code permitted the fence to be placed at the property line, at a zero setback to the street right-of-way. In March of 2008, the City Council adopted new regulations regarding the construction and location of fences that resulted in a three-foot setback for fences along a public right-of-way. The purpose of the ordinance was to consolidate fencing regulations found throughout Title 11, Land Use Development Regulations of City Code, and to provide specific regulations regarding construction, maintenance, height and setbacks of fences. The proposed setback from public street rights-of-way, current City Code Section 11-1204.3(2), was to provide for "snow storage, safety and maintenance of public property" according to the staff report at the time. In addition to the boulevard—defined as the portion of the public street right-of-way not improved as roadway—the City maintains a 10-foot drainage and utility easement on the private property immediately adjacent to the right-of-way. The new setback requirement was intended, in part, to provide access to portions of this easement area without having to remove fence components.

The applicant is requesting a three-foot setback variance from City Code Section 11-1204.3(2) to reconstruct a privacy fence with a zero setback from the public street right-of-way for 104th Lane NW for a distance of 60.5 feet as measured from the east (rear) property line of Lot 1, Block 4, Forestwood Addition (according to the original recorded plat of Forestwood). If granted, this will allow a length of fence of approximately 56 feet to be constructed at a zero setback from that length of the right-of-way for 104th Lane NW where the additional two feet of right-of-way width was acquired. A temporary, semi-opaque fence has been erected at the approximate location of the required setbacks except for an angled section which encroaches into the required setback area near the location where it connects with the existing fence. (Parcel 55 referenced in the applicant's submission material is the parcel number for the right-of-way acquired by Anoka County during the construction project. It is parcel in Anoka County Highway Right-of-Way Plat No. 87, created for the Foley Boulevard reconstruction project.)

The applicant is also requesting that the area subject to the variance be extended further west along the north property line of the lot to include a portion of the original fence that was not disturbed during construction, measuring approximately 50 feet in length, so that a complete replacement of the screening fence can be undertaken for aesthetic reasons. This section of fence was made nonconforming in 2008 with the adoption of the three-foot setback requirement for fences from public rights-of-way. City Code provides that this nonconforming fence may be continued and Minnesota State Statute 394.36 Subd. 4, allows the property owner to continue the nonconformity, including through repair, replacement, restoration, maintenance, or improvement, but not including expansion. No variance is required to reconstruct this portion of the fence. The nonconformity does not extend to the fencing dislocated by the taking of additional right-of-way.

The applicant has also indicated a request to locate a portion of the fence within the public street right-of-way on 104th Lane NW that includes an angled section of fence in order to avoid two 90 degree turns in the fence. (Refer to the applicant's proposal drawing and the last paragraph of the applicant's narrative, attached to this report.) This approval cannot be obtained through the variance process, rather the applicant would need to seek an encroachment agreement from the City in a separate action.

#### **Considerations**

In order for a variance to be granted, the Board must make the following findings of City Code Section 11-304.9(2), Standards for Approval for granting variances. A variance may be granted only after the following findings are made:

1. The variance is in harmony with the general purposes and intent of the ordinance from which the

variance is requested.

The purposes and intent for setback requirements are to provide appropriate distances and opportunities for snow storage, safety and maintenance of public property. The applicant proposes to place the fence such that, at the closest point, it is located two feet from the curb of the bulb of the cul-de-sac on 104th Lane NW. This distance is inadequate for plowing and snow storage purposes and would increase time and resources necessary to push snow elsewhere while attempting to avoid damage to the fence. Two feet is not an adequate distance to safely accommodate a pedestrian or other user having to leave the pavement surface to avoid harm or injury. Reducing the setback would be contrary to the stated purposes and intent of the ordinance from which the variance is requested.

2. The variance is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.

The Comprehensive Plan seeks to preserve the integrity of existing single-family neighborhoods. This goal can be furthered by ensuring adherence to land use regulations whenever possible. Requiring the fence be located at the required setback would not diminish the integrity of the property or the neighborhood.

- 3. The applicant demonstrates there are practical difficulties in complying with the ordinance from which the variance is sought. Practical difficulties include, but are not limited to, inadequate access to direct sunlight for solar energy systems. Economic considerations alone do not constitute practical difficulties. In determining this standard, all the following must be met:
- a. Unless the variance is granted, the property cannot be used in a reasonable manner. If a property can be used reasonably without the granting of a variance, it can be used in a reasonable manner.

There are no practical difficulties presented in locating a fence at the required setback. The property can be used reasonably without the granting of this variance and, therefore, used in a reasonable manner.

b. The variance requested must be the minimum to make reasonable use of the property.

The petitioner has not demonstrated that the variance requested is the minimum necessary to make reasonable use of the property.

c. The plight of the applicant or landowner is due to circumstances unique to the property not created by the applicant or landowner.

The need to relocate the fence resulted from the taking of additional right-of-way for two streets adjacent to this property. These circumstances were not created by the applicant or landowner, however, they are not unique to this property. Anoka County is in the process of upgrading Foley Boulevard from Highway 10 to Northdale Boulevard. During this project, nearly one-third (eleven of 39) of the residential streets intersecting with Foley Boulevard have been or will be cut off from accessing Foley Boulevard and terminated in a cul-de-sac.

d. The variance, if granted, will not alter the essential character of the locality.

If granted, the variance would place a 6-foot high wood privacy fence two feet off the curb of 104<sup>th</sup> Lane NW. Fences are generally located fourteen or more feet from the curb line of a public street.

The application for variance requires the applicant submit a written narrative explaining how the variance request meets the following criteria: explain the undue hardship that exists based upon circumstances

unique to the property, explain how the request allows the minimum improvement that would make possible the reasonable use of the property, explain how the request would not be detrimental to the neighborhood or the public welfare and explain how the variance would not grant a special privilege not common to other property in the same zoning district. The applicant's narrative is attached.

A proposed statement of reasons for denying the variance request is attached for your consideration.

#### RECOMMENDATION

In Case 15-53V, staff recommends the Board adopt the proposed Statement of Reasons for Denial Pursuant to Minn. Stat. §15.99, Subd.2., and deny the three-foot setback variance from City Code Section 11-1204.3(2) to locate a fence at a zero setback from a public street right-of-way where a three-foot setback is required based on the request failing to meet the findings required of City Code Section 11-304.9(2).

### **Attachments**

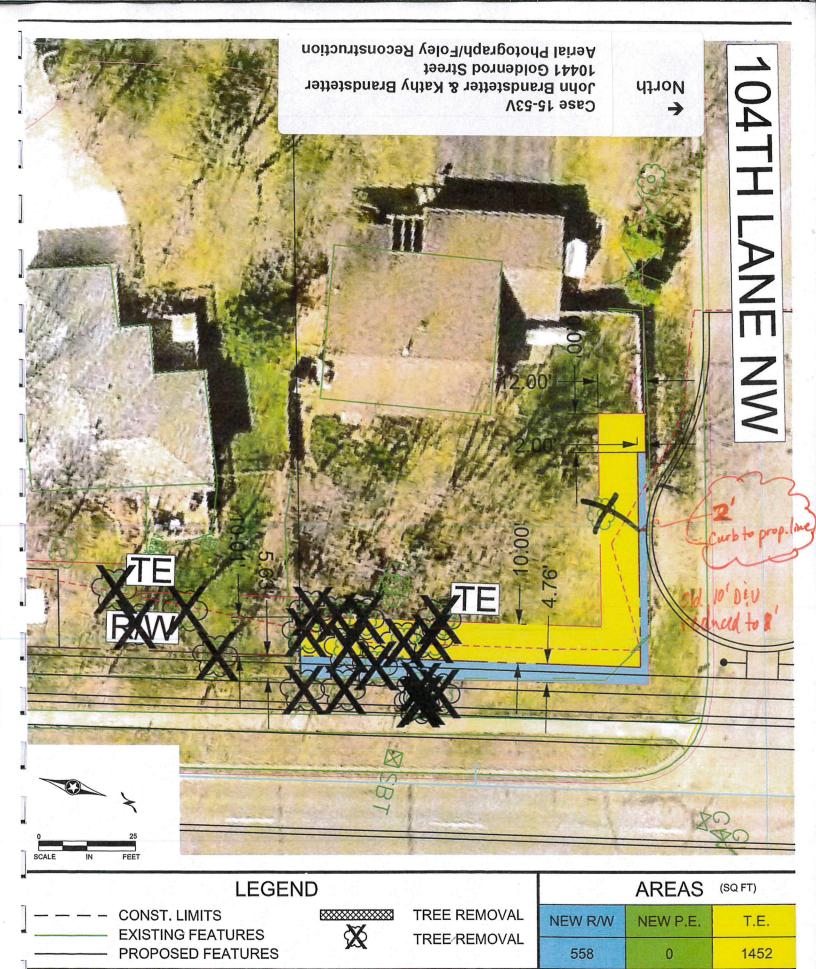
City Code Section 11-1204

Aerial Photo 15-53V

Applicant's Proposal 15-53V

Applicant's Narrative 15-53V

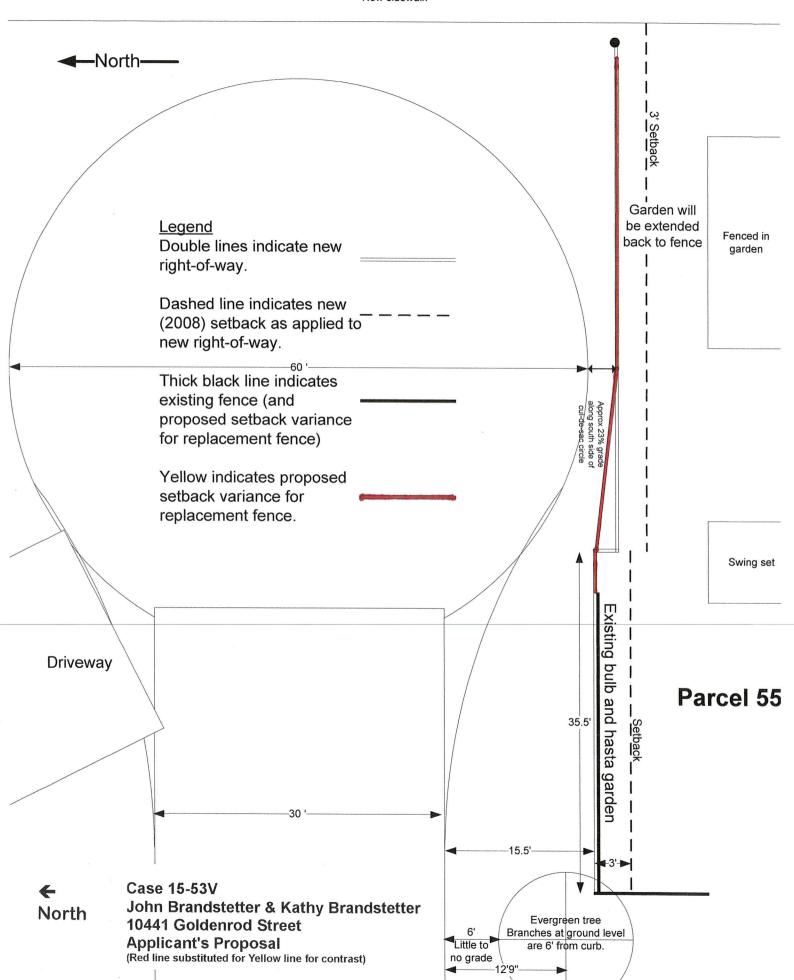
Statement of Reasons for Denial 15-53V



- 10441 GOLDENROD ST NW PIN # 24-31-24-42-0038 S.P. 002-611-032

PARCEL # 055

05/07/13



Variance Request

Forestwood parcel 55

John and Kathy Brandstetter (owner and resident) 10441 Goldenrod St NW Coon Rapids, MN 55448

johnbrandstetter@msn.com kathybrandstetter@msn.com

Phone: 763-757-2192

Narrative explaining what variance is being requested:

As a part of the Foley Blvd reconstruction project, the intersection of 104<sup>th</sup> lane and Foley Blvd has been made into a cul-de-sac with no access to Foley Blvd. The new cul-de-sac has no driveways fully within the cul-de-sac circle (a portion of one driveway is within the cul-de-sac circle).

Forestwood parcel 55 is located south of  $104^{th}$  lane and west of Foley Blvd. This parcel had an existing fence prior to the reconstruction project. The fence was built prior to 2008 and was in good condition. A portion of the side yard fence (approx. 60 feet from the east right-of-way heading west along  $104^{th}$  lane) was removed to provide a temporary easement for the Foley Blvd reconstruction project. The remaining portion (the 35 ½ foot portion to the west along  $104^{th}$  lane as depicted as heavy black line in attached drawing) is still in place and is built along the right-of-way which is 15 ½ feet from the  $104^{th}$  lane curb.

In March 2008 the residential fence ordnances were consolidated as noted in Planning Case 08-03 March 4, 2008. During this consolidation process, a three foot setback from the public right-of-way was introduced. The setback was introduced "to allow for snow storage, safety and maintenance of public property."

Prior to the reconstruction project the fence on this parcel was grandfathered in and no issues have been reported regarding "snow storage, safety and maintenance" along the 104<sup>th</sup> Lane side yard. The right-of-way along the 104<sup>th</sup> lane roadway entering the cul-de-sac circle is 15 ½ feet from the curb with evergreen trees extending as close as 6 feet to the curb. Snow that has been plowed onto the side yard has not reached the lowest branches on the evergreen tree. This demonstrates that snow storage has not been an issue well within the current side yard with the existing fence. As this street is now a cul-de-sac, no new safety or maintenance issues are introduced with regard to the right-of-way as this cul-de-sac sees minimal traffic.

In order to maintain an aesthetic fence, the county Foley Blvd reconstruction project will pay for a complete fence replacement. However, by replacing the existing side yard fence, the portion of the fence that is not impacted by the creation of the cul-de-sac will need to be moved in 3

Case 15-53V
John Brandstetter & Kathy Brandstetter
10441 Goldenrod Street
Applicant's Narrative

additional feet from the right-of-way due to the change in the ordinance in 2008. This creates a buffer of 18 ½ feet for "snow storage, safety and maintenance". As noted above, the 15 ½ foot buffer has been more than sufficient for "snow storage, safety and maintenance".

As owners and residents of this parcel, we are requesting a variance to this setback ordinance because if a portion of the fence had not been removed and the full fence replaced for the reconstruction project, it would remain grandfathered in and there have been no issues regarding "snow storage, safety and maintenance". By adding the additional setback to the existing right-of-way in the area along this portion of 104th lane, we will lose access to currently utilized and maintained property within our fence. The loss of usable land within our fence is not necessary for the purposes that the setback was introduced ("snow storage, safety and maintenance") as demonstrated by the lack of issues since the fence was first built. There is no public benefit to the additional 3 foot setback along this portion of the parcel. By reducing the usable size of the yard the value of the property is reduced, thus impacting the home value in this, and by extension, neighboring properties. This loss of property to the introduction of the additional setback in 2008 was not considered in the eminent domain agreement with the county. By allowing this variance, the neighborhood would not be detrimentally impacted. Granting the variance would only be a positively impacted as compared to the alternative. As this is a rare condition (county road reconstruction creating a cul-de-sac that causes temporary removal of existing fence and resulting in an additional loss of 3 feet of usable property), this variance would not grant a special privilege not common to other property in the same zoning district.

In addition, to make reasonable use of the property, and because there are no driveways within the cul-de-sac circle, we propose angling the fence to the right of way along the closest part of the cul-de-sac circle to allow for a more aesthetic look as compared to two 90 degree angles that are 3 feet apart along the side yard. To make reasonable use of the property surrounding the cul-de-sac circle, we propose that the fence be allowed up to the right-of-way at the point where it passes closest to the cul-de-sac circle and directly east along the right-of-way from that point. This allows ample space for snow storage and creates an aesthetic fence that will allow for a reasonable use of the fenced in yard space.

# COON RAPIDS BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT AND APPEALS MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 1, 2015

The regular meeting of the Coon Rapids Board of Adjustment and Appeals was called to order by Chairman Vande Linde at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 1, 2015, in the Council Chambers.

Members Present: Chairman Aaron Vande Linde, Commissioners Ronald Bradley, Teri

Spano-Madden, Trish Thorup, and Tracy Wigen

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Property Maintenance Inspector Trevor White, Property Maintenance

Inspector Heather Rodgers, Community Development Director Grant Fernelius, Assistant City Attorney Melissa Westervelt, Housing Inspector

Leya Drabczak, and Neighborhood Coordinator Kristin DeGrande

.....

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Vande Linde called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

## APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 1, 2015, AGENDA

Chairman Vande Linde asked applicants to identify which case they were representing in order to reorganize the requests to consider those with applicants present prior to the cases without representation.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SPANO-MADDEN, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER THORUP, TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 1, 2015, AGENDA AS AMENDED. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

## APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 6, 2015, MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Thorup referenced the August 6, 2015 worksession minutes. She noted on page one, under the approval of the worksession meeting minutes, it should state, "...aprove approve..."

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER THORUP, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SPANO-MADDEN, TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 6, 2015, WORKSESSION AND REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES AS AMENDED. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

1. CASE 15-53V – JOHN AND KATHY BRANDSTETTER – 10441 GOLDENROD STREET - FENCE SETBACK VARIANCE

Assistant City Attorney Westervelt presented the request from the Brandstetters for a variance to have a zero foot setback for a fence. She explained that the fence was removed during the Foley

Boulevard reconstruction project. She stated that during the reconstruction project there was a taking of permanent easements for additional right-of-way along both Foley Boulevard and 104<sup>th</sup> Lane NW, noting that there was an additional 4.76 feet of right-of-way for the subject property. She stated that there had been a fence on the subject property, a portion of which was removed during the project, and explained that the applicant is requesting a variance from the required three-foot setback to a zero foot setback to allow the removed portion of fence replaced in its original location.

Chairman Vande Linde opened the public hearing at 6:37 p.m.

John and Kathy Brandstetter addressed the Board. He noted that the existing fence was nonconforming and would have remained in that manner for some time had it not been for the Anoka County improvement project. He stated that a portion of the fence was removed during construction to provide better access to the public right-of-way and after completion of construction he had been told that the existing nonconforming fence could remain but the portion that must be replaced would now need to conform. He stated that this area is a cul-de-sac and noted that there is a neighbor present to voice support. He also provided a written letter of support from another neighbor. He stated that there is plenty of room for snow removal as there are no other driveways in the cul-de-sac. He noted that the County project was done without their consent and if they needed to move the fence, they would be unable to use that portion of their yard.

Diane Sikorski, 10420 Goldenrodd, stated that she supports the request as the residents are not asking for anything they did not already have.

Charles Nevala, 10431 Goldenrod, stated that he lives right next door to this property. He explained that the residents are only asking to put their fence back where it was, to the best of their ability, as the County project was not of their asking and voiced his support for the request.

Chairman Vande Linde asked and received clarification that the fence was removed as a part of the temporary easement and not the permanent easement.

Kathy Brandstetter stated that the project has been completed and the representative from the County she spoke with said that it would be okay to replace the fence.

Chairman Vande Linde asked if the temporary easement has expired.

Kathy Brandstetter noted that the County had to do an extension because the construction ran over the original timeline and therefore the lease does not technically expire until the end of the year.

Commissioner Brandley asked the homeowners how they had used the three-foot portion of yard prior to the reconstruction.

Mr. Brandstetter stated that they were using the area for gardens and for use by their dogs. He noted that a portion of their playset had been removed prior to construction as well.

Commissioner Thorup asked if the homeowners have small children at the home.

Mr. Brandstetter stated that his children are grown but they do visit.

Chairman Vande Linde stated that he read the materials before the meeting and acknowledged that the applicant understands the criteria that must be met to issue a variance. He stated that the request must be weighed against those criteria.

Chairman Vande Linde closed the public hearing at 6:47 p.m. as there were no additional comments.

Commissioner Bradley stated that in reviewing the request against the variance criteria there would have to be a difficulty or burden presented by the applicant. He stated that the residents were compensated for the taking of the property for this project, which includes loss of use. He did not believe that there was a real hardship presented and therefore was unsure if a variance could be granted.

Chairman Vande Linde suggested that the Board walk through the criteria that must be met, noting that a number of the criteria are not met through this request.

Commissioner Spano-Madden referenced the criteria regarding reasonable use of property and stated that while everyone wants to be able to use all of their property that is not always the case because property in the city is much smaller. She stated that while she would like to grant the request she did not see how the Board could justify the variance criteria being met.

Chairman Vande Linde agreed that under the current State Statutes this request could not be justified.

Commissioner Bradley stated that even if the Board would be able to grant the variance there would still be a practical difficulty, because if the City needed to access the property within the easement the fence would need to be removed.

Chairman Vande Linde read aloud the findings of fact proposed by staff and included in the meeting packet.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER BRADLEY, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER WIGEN, IN CASE 15-53V, TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR DENIAL PURSUANT TO MINNESOTA STATUTE §15.99, SUBDIVISION 2.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER WIGEN, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SPANO-MADDEN, IN CASE 15-53V, TO DENY THE THREE-FOOT SETBACK VARIANCE FROM CITY CODE SECTION 11-1204.3(2) TO LOCATED A FENCE AT A ZERO SETBACK FROM PUBLIC STREET RIGHT-OF-WAY WHERE A THREE FOOT SETBACK IS REQUIRED BASED ON THE REQUEST FAILING TO MEET THE FINDINGS REQUIRED OF CITY CODE SECTION 11-304.9(2) BASED ON THE ADOPTED STATEMENT OF

REASONS FOR DENIAL PURSUANT TO MINNESOTA STATUTE §15.99, SUBDIVISION 2.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

2. CASE 15-29V – RAYMOND WARREN JR. – 2170 108<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE NW – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION – 22-31-24-21-0015 (AGENDA ITEM 3)

Neighborhood Coordinator Kristin DeGrande reviewed the background on the case. She reported that a citation was sent for parking a boat and vehicle off pavement in May. She stated that after the citation was issued, upon reinspection the vehicle had been moved but the boat had not been moved. She noted that a second citation was sent and the applicant then made contact and requested a 30-day extension, after which time the property was made compliant. She noted that the appeal tonight applies to the first citation as the property was compliant after the extension given for the second citation.

Raymond Warren Jr., 2170 108<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW, introduced himself and his girlfriend Darlene Cronin who also lives at his property. He acknowledged that he was wrong and believed that there was an item that allowed rock to be placed for parking of recreation vehicles. He stated that he takes pride in his yard and was parking the boat and vehicle in that location for convenience. He noted that along his street there are vehicles parked in yards, even today, and did not think it was fair that he was singled out. He stated that he has a nice fence alongside his yard, that he spent a lot of money to make it look nice, and noted that he has had problems with his neighbor damaging the fence. He stated that when he contacted the City he was told that nothing could be done about his fence. He noted that since that time he has installed video cameras along that side of his property to document any further damage. He did not understand how he would be charged \$300 for his boat and vehicle parked in that location but his neighbor is not punished for damaging his property.

Darlene Cronin stated that she drives up and down the street daily and has noted at least 15 people that are consistently noncompliant on a daily basis.

Chairman Vande Linde stated that from the pictures it is apparent that this resident takes care of his property and noted that based on the caseload for tonight's meeting, he does not think the property owner was singled out. He asked how City staff was alerted to this property.

Neighborhood Coordinator Kristin DeGrande stated that City staff often hears the comment that a homeowner feels singled out. She explained that violations are reported through calls from residents or neighbors and are also identified by staff and Commission or Board members that are out in the community. She provided an example of staff inspecting a complaint and then noticing issues with other properties in that area. She stated that in the past, there was only one inspector but now there has been a second inspector hired by the City, which means they are able to do more in the City. She agreed that from the pictures it is clear that the resident takes care of his yard. She noted some of the educational material that is sent to residents to advise them of City Code.

Chairman Vande Linde stated that it appears that the compliance date was right around Memorial Day weekend.

Ms. DeGrande noted that the inspection date was May  $20^{th}$  and reinspection occurred on the May  $28^{th}$ , noting that Memorial Day was May  $25^{th}$ .

Mr. Warren stated that now that he has installed the pavers and agrees that surface looks much better than the rocks did.

Assistant City Attorney Westervelt reviewed the considerations the Board deliberates on when making their recommendation.

Commissioner Bradley asked and received confirmation that the particular fine arises from the citation issued on May  $20^{th}$ . He stated that the violation was mailed to the property owner on May  $20^{th}$  and asked when the property owner received the notification.

Mr. Warren estimated he most likely received the mailing in the normal length of time it takes for mail to arrive.

Commissioner Bradley stated that the first contact to City Hall was on June 4<sup>th</sup> and asked the resident for more information.

Mr. Warren acknowledged that the response time is his fault.

Commissioner Wigen stated that the resident was aware of the situation and did not correct the situation is the necessary time.

Commissioner Bradley commended Mr. Warren on the manner in which he maintains his property. He believed it would have been easier to address the objection if Mr. Warren had he contacted the City sooner to obtain his extension. He stated that attention to the issue in a prompt manner would have made the request stronger. He stated that there was proper notice, and the citation was due to violation of the Code that was not immediately addressed.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER BRADLEY, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SPANO-MADDEN, IN CASE 15-29V, TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL AFFIRM THE \$300 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chairman Vande Linde thanked Mr. Warren for his well-maintained property.

3. CASE 15-38V – CHERYL LEE UPTON/CHARLES DODGE – 10885 OSAGE STREET NW – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION – 22-31-24-21-0057 (AGENDA ITEM 12)

Neighborhood Coordinator Kristin DeGrande reviewed the background on the case. She stated that the City Inspector had been to the property and spoke with someone stating that they were a tenant and there were four tenants living at that building. She noted that the City did not have a rental license on file for that property. She stated that Anoka County records did not show anything other than that address for the property owner and noted that the tenant was told to have their landlord contact the City. She stated that an administrative citation was mailed giving the property owner five weeks to comply, noting that the citation was returned as undeliverable because the property owner did not live at the property. She stated that the citation was issued in December and the fee was charged in February. She noted that a second citation was mailed and returned to the City, and with no response that fee was charged; a third citation was mailed and returned in March and another fee charged; and a fourth citation was mailed in May and returned to the City with that fee charged July. She stated that on July 10<sup>th</sup> the property owner did contact the City and request an extension, noting that the extension was granted for 30 days with a requirement that the rental license be obtained by August. She stated that the rental license application was just filed and paperwork was also filed at the County as well for the man present tonight to purchase the property through contract for deed.

Charles Dodge, 12340 Radisson Road in Blaine, stated that the owner of the property felt that her life was in danger and needed to leave town so he had volunteered to watch the property and did not have any forwarding address for the property owner. He stated that there were people living with the woman at her property who continued to live there and pay her after she had left. He stated that the first notice he received was in July and that is when he contacted City staff. He stated that when he made that contact he was informed about the multiple charges that had been assessed. He stated that in order to be licensed the woman would have needed to travel back here to sign the paperwork, which she was unable to do. He noted for that reason he offered to purchase the property from her and the process for the sale had taken longer than expected as the papers had to be sent back and forth across the country. He stated that he did file the paperwork with the County and has submitted all necessary paperwork with the City.

Chairman Vande Linde asked how Mr. Dodge was made aware of the July notice.

Mr. Dodge stated that the tenants provided him with the notice in July but the other notices were not sent to the property and had been returned. He stated that Ms. Upton left in June without a forwarding address and believed that perhaps the address change at the post office expired after 12 months and that is how the most recent citation was sent through to the property. He noted that as of the previous day he is the owner of record for the property.

Commissioner Bradley referenced the tenant that spoke with City staff last year, asking and receiving confirmation that tenant still lives at the property. He noted that the tenant was told at that time that a rental license would be necessary and that she should alert the property owner.

Mr. Dodge stated that he was told by that tenant that the inspector was at the property because of a boat she had parked and had told him that she went to the City and took care of the issue. He stated that there was no mention of the rental license from the tenant.

Commissioner Bradley stated that it appears the normal process is to inspect the property and mail citations. He asked if any written notice is left at the property when staff speaks with someone at the property.

Ms. DeGrande stated that the inspector returns to the office to conduct the proper work necessary and mails the citation through the system used by the City. She noted that long grass citations are posted on site the day of inspection but confirmed that all other citations are issued by mail.

Commissioner Bradley commented that it is not uncommon to have absentee landlords that are hard to reach and wondered if perhaps a posting should be made on the rentals for rental related citations, as he believed that this situation has happened several times before tonight. He noted that the mail is being returned as undeliverable and an onsite posting would be helpful in this type of situation.

Ms. DeGrande stated that the citation is usually sent to the property address as well as the property owner in rental situations but noted that in this instance there was no alternate address to send the notice to.

Commissioner Bradley stated that perhaps the notification should be mailed to owner/occupant as this citation was being returned because the resident's name was attached.

Chairman Vande Linde agreed that this has been a discussion point for quite some time.

Assistant City Attorney Westervelt stated that has been an issue over the years and explained that as part of the rental license process City staff asks for the address that the property owner would like communication sent to, noting that had not been done in this instance because the property was not registered as a rental.

Commissioner Bradley stated that many times there are people ignorant of the system that have not been informed that they have to update the City with their current address.

Commissioner Spano-Madden stated that the City did what they were supposed to do, however notice was not received until July. She questioned the validity of the citations for that purpose.

Chairman Vande Linde agreed and believed that the first notice received was acted upon. He acknowledged the length of time it can take to close on a property and stated that based upon his opinion Mr. Dodge began working with the City right away once notified.

Ms. DeGrande noted that the 30-day extension was granted and additional citations were not issued after that point because Mr. Dodge was working with City and County staff.

Commissioner Bradley asked if the posting could occur onsite with rental licensing issues.

Ms. Westervelt stated that she keeps a list of issues for discussion and confirmed that staff will further discuss that option.

Commissioner Wigen agreed with the comments made thus far.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER WIGEN, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER BRADLEY, IN CASE 15-38V, TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL RESCIND THE \$4,500 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

Further discussion: Commissioner Bradley asked if there was administrative history for this property prior to these incidents.

Ms. DeGrande did not believe so but was unsure.

THE MOTION PASSED 4-1 (VANDE LINDE OPPOSED).

4. CASE 15-41V – JEREMY GORDON – 9938 COTTONWOOD STREET NW – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION – 25-31-24-11-0066 (AGENDA ITEM 15)

Neighborhood Coordinator Kristin DeGrande reviewed the background on the case. She stated that the pending special assessments are related to a number of different citations including parking off pavement, junk and debris, garbage can location, and maintenance of special equipment at property. She stated that the citations were issued in January and inspection occurred on January 30<sup>th</sup>, noting that the exterior debris has been cleared but the other three violations still existed so those three fees were charged. She stated that a second round of citations were issued with a compliance date of February 6<sup>th</sup>. She noted that there were changes in the City Inspector position, explaining that the previous inspector left the position in February and the new inspectors were not hired until May. She stated that for that reason the second round of citations were forgiven and those fees were not charged as reinspection did not occur.

Commissioner Spano-Madden stated that it appears the City was as fair as it could be and therefore supported affirming the special assessment in its entirety.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER THORUP, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SPANO-MADDEN, IN CASE 15-41V, TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL AFFIRM THE \$900 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. CASE 15-45V – NANCY PHAM – 150 NORTHDALE BOULEVARD NW – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION – 13-31-24-42-0072 (AGENDA ITEM 19)

Neighborhood Coordinator Kristin DeGrande reviewed the background on the case. She stated that the objection relates to a citation issued in May for exterior storage of items at the property. She stated that the citation was mailed to the property and property owner of record. She noted that reinspection occurred six days after the compliance date and the exterior storage had still not been moved and therefore the \$300 fee was charged to property. She stated that staff visited the property for abatement the next day and spoke with people at property; therefore, the assessment includes the citation fee and cleanup costs.

Tuan Pham, younger brother of the property owner, stated that he lives at the property with other family members including their parents. He stated that the property is situated in front of Northdale and when they received the citation, they moved the bags of leaves from the front to the back of the property and planned to remove the leaves when they had a vehicle available to bring to the compost site. He stated that they then received an abatement notice. He recognized that it was their fault because they were unclear on what needed to be done but objected to the abatement as he believed that they did what needed to be done. He stated that the building materials had existed in that location for years and they did not know there was a problem with that.

Rohan Sing, husband of the property owner, stated that they understand now that they did not comply with the City by just moving the bags of leaves from the visible area to the backyard, and agreed that the \$300 should be charged. He stated that the next day the City told his in-laws, who live at the property, that they are going to take the garbage away but did not tell the property owner this information. He asked why a second citation was not sent warning that abatement could occur. He agreed with the \$300 but objected to the abatement costs as there was nothing written saying that the abatement costs would be charged.

Chairman Vande Linde stated that the first citation specifies that if the issue is not brought into compliance the City may abate the situation and if the City abates the issue any costs will be charged.

Mr. Sing stated that he believed something more concrete should have been sent, rather than saying the City may do that.

Mr. Pham stated that they understood the citation to state that if the item was not corrected they would be charged \$300, they did not know that additional abatement costs would be charged. He stated that they would have liked to have the time to complete the labor themselves. He stated that he lives at the property with his parents, noting that his parents are not proficient in English. He agreed that the \$300 was justified but opposed the abatement costs.

Commissioner Bradley stated that \$747 was the cost to remove the debris and noted that cost was paid to a vendor to remove that material therefore the City incurred that cost to remove that material. He asked the residents if they were unclear that the other materials had to be moved.

Mr. Sing stated that the building materials had been in the same location for years and there had recently been black bags of leaves along the property, therefore they believed that the leaves were the problem.

Commissioner Bradley asked if anyone from the household contacted City staff to determine what the problem was.

Mr. Sing stated that he did not believe that was done.

Commissioner Bradley stated that there was an attempt at compliance by moving the leaves. He noted that the problem he has is that the City incurred the abatement charges to correct the

problem. He stated that he would possibly support rescinding the \$300 citation fee but believed the abatement costs should be affirmed.

Commissioner Thorup noted that the citation identified the materials that needed to be addressed.

Commissioner Spano-Madden stated that she understands how a resident could think the new item is causing the problem.

Commissioner Wigen asked if there has been subsequent notice provided in other situations of this nature.

Ms. DeGrande stated that typically the answer is no, noting that abatement occurs after reinspection. She noted that if there are new items added to the area the abatement would occur on the old items and a second citation would be issued for the new items.

Commissioner Wigen stated that she would love to have seen stronger language in the citation on what needed to happen and what the next step would be.

Chairman Vande Linde stated that in his opinion it is the responsibility of the homeowner to find the additional clarification they may need.

Ms. DeGrande stated that items meant to be stored outside are not abated if they are in operable condition, referencing the before and after pictures of the property and noting the items that were not abated.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER BRADLEY, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER THORUP, IN CASE 15-45V, TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL MODIFY THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FROM \$1,047 TO \$900.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Sing asked how the assessment could be paid.

Ms. DeGrande stated that the assessment could be paid in full within one week and the resident would then not incur filing fees or interest charges. She noted that a letter would be sent to the property owner from the assessing department and if the full amount is not paid, the charge would be assessed to the property taxes and paid over the course of a one-year period. She noted that the resident can call City staff tomorrow for additional details.

6. CASE 15-46V – HEIDI AND CHARLES MEADE – 10348 XAVIS STREET NW – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION – 21-31-24-41-0007 (AGENDA ITEM 20)

Neighborhood Coordinator Kristin DeGrande reviewed the background on the case. She stated that the assessments are related to a rental with an expired license. She noted that the inspector spoke with Heidi Meade on March 17<sup>th</sup> via the telephone and explained the expired status of the rental license, which expired on March 1<sup>st</sup> of the previous year. She stated that at that time the property owner paid the rental fees but did not show up for the inspections. She noted that the

inspection finally took place in September and but the property owner did not schedule a reinspection. She stated that in March 2015 the reinspection was passed. She noted that the expired rental license was mailed to the St. Francis address and in June was still not renewed, therefore the fees were charged. She stated that a second citation was mailed and not responded to, so those fees were charged as well. She stated that a third citation was mailed with a compliance date of July 17<sup>th</sup> and at that time the property owner called City Hall with questions. She noted that staff explained that would be necessary to bring the property into compliance and on July 21<sup>st</sup> the owner came into City Hall to submit the renewal fee and paperwork. She noted that on July 29<sup>th</sup>, the license was renewed and therefore the third citation fees were not charged.

Heidi Meade stated that she inherited this property when her husband passed away and she did not have knowledge about the licensing. She stated that she did not understand the citation part. She misunderstood what had been told to her and for some reason she was under the impression that the \$300 citation had been waived and did not pay it. She stated that when the property was inspected she missed the part about paying for the fee to bring it into compliance. She stated that she did not received the \$600 citation notice and came to City Hall once she received the larger citation. She stated that she hadn't realized that she didn't pay the \$100 for the license and had been waiting for the license to arrive after the inspection. She stated that some of the mail was in her husband's name and before he passed away, some of his mail was being forwarded to a different address. She stated that she found the process to be confusing and did not understand it fully until she spoke to the staff at City Hall in person. She stated that if she would have known she needed to pay the fee should would have done that. She requested that she pay the original assessment of \$300 and objected to the remaining \$600. She noted that Charles Meade's name should be removed from any future correspondence to avoid problems with delivery.

Chairman Vande Linde stated that he is at a loss of why staff did not address the 2015 license when the 2014 issues were being discussed with the property owner.

Ms. DeGrande acknowledged that it is a complicated timeline. She noted that the Housing Inspector spoke with Ms. Meade in March and explained the entire process regarding the 2014 licensing and noting that the 2015 license was due for renewal as well. She noted that the 2014 inspection needed to be passed before the 2015 license could be issued.

Ms. Meade stated that when she spoke with the inspector in March she brought the items into compliance within one week, noting that she did not see the small print stating that she would need to schedule the reinspection. She noted that this has all been a learning experience for her as she inherited the property. She recognized that there was a misunderstanding in whether or not she would need to pay the \$300 citation.

Commissioner Spano-Madden stated that the Board is supposed to consider whether City staff followed the proper methods, noting that the City did what they were supposed to do.

Chairman Vande Linde stated that the County records still line up with Charles Meade listed as well.

Ms. DeGrande stated that the citations were sent addressed to Heidi Meade and not Charles Meade.

Ms. Meade stated that she did receive the \$300 notice and the \$1,200 notice but had not seen the \$600 notice until she came into City Hall and received a copy from the clerk. She was unsure what happened to the second notice that had been mailed. She noted that she was shocked when she received the \$1,200 notice as she did not believe that she owed anything. She stated that she honestly would have paid everything right away if she had known.

Commissioner Bradley stated that in reviewing the notes from staff it appears that the \$600 citation was issued on June 3, 2015 and the next notation on June 24<sup>th</sup> was the fee being charged. He reviewed the notes from staff that states no mail returned after the \$600 notice, which means that it was received by someone. He stated that it appears the notice was sent and that it most likely was delivered which he believed proves that the City has met their burden of notice for that citation.

Ms. Meade stated that she did receive the \$300 notice and the \$1,200 notice, so she is not denying the receipt of those notices. She stated that she did not see the \$600 notice until she received a copy from staff.

Chairman Vande Linde noted that the \$1,200 is not before the Board at this time and asked if something additional was pending.

DeGrande stated that the \$1,200 was not charged. She explained that the rental license had been renewed in July and therefore the third citation fee was not charged.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER BRADLEY, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER THORUP, IN CASE 15-46V, TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL AFFIRM THE \$900 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER THORUP, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER WIGEN, TO BRIEFLY RECESS THE MEETING AT 8:35 P.M. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chairman Vande Linde reconvened the meeting at 8:44 p.m.

7. CASE 15-50V – MARY MULLER – 10424 XAVIS NW – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION – 21-31-24-41-0013 (AGENDA ITEM 24)

Neighborhood Coordinator Kristin DeGrande reviewed the background on the case. She stated that in April there were two citations issued, one for exterior storage and one for a vehicle with expired tabs and flat tires. She stated that the citations were mailed to the property and the owner of record, noting that in May, the owner submitted for a 30-day extension and a new reinspection date was set; noting that the owner had stated that the tenant would be moving in May. She stated that staff contacted the property owner to alert of additional complaints and worsening of the condition. She stated that staff spoke with the property owner and advised that abatement would occur the following day; it was also advised that the vehicle would be cited one

more time before being towed. She noted that the items not in compliance were abated. She stated that both citation fees of \$300 each were charged and would not be appealable because of the terms of the 30 days extension. She stated that because the vehicle was still in violation a second citation was issued for the vehicle, noting that upon reinspection on June 18<sup>th</sup>, the property was in compliance and therefore only half of that fee was charged.

Mary Muller and Jim Muller addressed the Board. She stated that they had horrible tenants that they had rented to in good faith. She noted that the renter worked contract jobs and was continually late on rent, but noted that she worked with the tenants because of the three children they had living with them at the property. She stated that they attempted to work with the tenants to move out in order to correct the citation and formal arrangements were made for them to move out on April 28<sup>th</sup> with the understanding that they would be out by the end of May. She noted that there was a garage sale the tenant had on their lawn, which was a mess. She noted that they constantly worked with the tenants to remove the trash. She stated that they had received a long grass notice and immediately went to the property to attempt to help the tenants fix the mower. She noted that the tenant called the police and the officer told the tenant that they were bad tenants and believed that the landlord was justified in being upset. She provided photographs of the property from May 31<sup>st</sup> through June 9<sup>th</sup>, noting that the tenants were in the process of moving. She stated that they did everything they could possibly do with the exception of having the van towed, explaining that they were fearful of the repercussions the tenant would have if they would have towed the van as the tenant had threatened them and any future tenants. She stated that the tenants moved separately, the woman moved to a safe home with her children and noted that she had seen the female tenant with a black eye. She noted that the female tenant begged them not to tow the van, and advised that they had sent numerous messages and had numerous conversations with the tenant to try to remedy the situation. She was unsure why they were being penalized for the actions of their tenants. She noted that this is the first and last rental property that they will have in Coon Rapids, noting that they have unpaid rent, five broken internal windows, and broken doors and doorframes on five interior doors.

Mr. Muller acknowledged the opinion of the neighbors and that the tenant did not get along with the neighbors. He noted that they had the tenants sign a contract stating they would be out by the end of May, even though they did not move out by that date. He stated that it appeared there was no recourse they could have taken to remove the tenants from the property.

Commissioner Bradley asked if a housing attorney had been contacted in regard to the tenants.

Ms. Muller replied that they did not.

Commissioner Bradley stated that when you become a landlord you take on a lot of responsibility. He stated that he is a lawyer and has represented both tenants and landlords in court, noting that the property owners do have recourse under the law.

Mr. Muller stated that they did not take some of those possible actions because they wanted the tenants out as soon as possible.

Commissioner Bradley empathized with the position the landlord was in but stated that as a landlord they will probably take great care to whom they rent to in the future.

Ms. Muller stated that they are not new to rentals but are new to rentals in Coon Rapids. She noted that they have had bad tenants before but felt that they lost control in this situation.

Mr. Muller stated that he was not sure how the landlord would be responsible for a vehicle owned by the tenant. He stated that they were close to towing the vehicle but were fearful for the repercussion that would come not only to them but to the woman and her children.

Ms. Muller stated that they tried to do the best they could to work with the tenants and not take them to court or tow their vehicle.

Commissioner Bradley stated that those types of tenants are not unique and there are ways to screen them out. He noted that there are instances where landlords have incurred many charges because of activities of the tenant that took place on their property.

Chairman Vande Linde stated that it is apparent that the property owners were diligent in working with the City but not diligent in exercising their rights on the property and with the tenants. He received confirmation that the City abated the property and asked for the abatement fee.

Property Maintenance Inspector Trevor White stated that the pictures of the loaded trailers contain the items that were removed from the property by the City.

Mr. Muller stated that he was totally unaware of that.

Ms. Muller asked what is owing at this time.

Ms. DeGrande stated that staff will go back and check the invoice for the abatement as that is not included in the packet. She clarified that there was a charge of \$300 for the vehicle and \$300 for the exterior storage, along with the abatement costs. She stated that a conversation occurred on June 8<sup>th</sup> and those charges are not appealable because of the terms of the 30-day extension that was granted.

Commissioner Thorup asked and received clarification that this assessment is for \$300 and that there may be other abatement costs that are not appealable and therefore those are not included in this case.

Ms. DeGrande stated that the special assessment that is pending is half of the \$600 for the second citation that was issued on the vehicle. She confirmed that the other charges were not appealable because of the extension agreement that was signed on May 8<sup>th</sup>, noting that the abatement occurred on June 9<sup>th</sup> after a discussion with the homeowner on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman Vande Linde stated that there is a recent photograph of the property, which shows it has been cleaned up. He asked when the tenants vacated the property.

Ms. Muller stated that the van was moved by the tenant on June 26<sup>th</sup>. She noted that the female tenant and children left the property by June 16<sup>th</sup>. She noted that the house, garage and yard

were full of items they needed to remove after the tenants left. She was unsure of the exact date the male tenant left as they had been out of town for their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Ms. DeGrande stated that the total for the abatement invoice was \$866.

Mr. White noted that there was a considerable weight for the items, noting there were tires that needed to be removed as well.

Mr. Muller asked where the items were located that were abated.

Mr. White stated that the items abated were all located outdoors including tires, televisions, furniture, and a 55-gallon burning barrel.

Ms. Muller stated that her grandson hauled seven pickup loads before the City abated the property.

Commissioner Bradley stated that there was adequate notice and time to comply. He stated that while there were reasons the property owner did not comply, he did not believe that excuses the owner from the penalties.

Commissioner Spano-Madden appreciated the comments and input from the property owners but stated that City staff did what they needed to do and therefore she would agree with Commissioner Bradley.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER BRADLEY, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SPANO-MADDEN, IN CASE 15-50V, TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL AFFIRM THE \$300 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. CASE 15-51V – WILL ZIERHUT – 2900 109<sup>TH</sup> LANE NW – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION – 16-31-24-34-0049 (AGENDA ITEM 25)

Housing Inspector Leah Drabczak reviewed the background on the case. She stated that the assessment relates to a long grass and weeds citation, which was issued on May 26<sup>th</sup> and reinspected on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. She stated that the yard was not mowed and was in violation so the \$300 was charged a crew had been dispatched on June 4<sup>th</sup>. She stated that the mowing had already been done by that time and therefore the crew did not complete the mowing but the \$300 citation was charged because the property was not in compliance by the required date.

Will Zierhut, 2900 109<sup>th</sup> Lane NW, stated that he was in violation of his grass being too long and was not disputing that fact. He stated that on May 26<sup>th</sup> he received the citation at 10:52 a.m., which identified the issue. He explained that the notice stated to comply by June 2<sup>nd</sup> or a \$300 penalty would be enforced. He stated that his issue is that he did have his grass cut that following Sunday. He noted that if they revisited the property and found it not to be compliant they would have taken additional pictures as they did in the original incident. He stated that the record shows that staff visited the property on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and the mowing company was ordered for

the 4<sup>th</sup>. He stated that the grass was cut and there is no proof that anyone even visited the site or that the grass had not been cut. He stated that the process to issue the citation was very detailed but the follow-up did not have any details. He noted that his grass was cut and he found nothing from City staff on the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> and believed that the issue would have been documented in the same manner upon reinspection.

Chairman Vande Linde stated that the evidence before the Board is that the grass was cut at least by June 4<sup>th</sup> of 2015 when the crew arrived.

Ms. DeGrande stated that the grass was not cut by the compliance date of June 2<sup>nd</sup>, noting that the inspector visited the site on June 3<sup>rd</sup> in the morning.

Chairman Vande Linde stated that in the past there has usually been double documentation.

Ms. DeGrande stated that has never been done for grass but is done for other items such as junk and debris.

Chairman Vande Linde stated that he believed that a second set of photos was taken before abatement.

Ms. DeGrande confirmed that the mowing crew would have taken before and after pictures but that was not done because the yard was found to be mowed.

Commissioner Bradley stated that pictures are always nice but as a matter of evidence, records are adequate as well.

Mr. Zeirhut stated that he appreciated the due diligence upfront but did not see that on the backend. He stated that the grass was cut before June  $2^{nd}$ .

Chairman Vande Linde asked if the property had ever received a citation for long grass in the past.

Mr. Zeirhut stated that he had not ever been cited for that reason before this incident.

Commissioner Bradley stated that technically the City staff notes are adequate but stated that he is inclined to rescind because this property owner is not a problem property and did not think this would happen again. He stated that he does believe in second chances. He did not disbelieve the City notes, however the grass was mowed when the crew visited the property.

Commissioner Thorup referenced the noted from the long grass reinspection on June 3<sup>rd</sup> that states that the front grass was cut but the backyard was "cut bad" and was eight to ten inches long. She noted that when they came back with the crew the grass had been mowed.

Mr. Zierhut stated that he was not aware of how the grass could be cut but still be eight to ten inches long. He stated that he did not recut the lawn after that time and the lawn crew stated that the grass was cut.

Commissioner Spano-Madden stated that in some instances there are cases that have come before the Board in which 90 percent of the lawn had been cut.

Commissioner Bradley stated that he tends to agree that the grass had been cut and the lawn crew believed that it was mowed.

Commissioner Thorup asked if the Board would be willing to modify the assessment by half based on the definition of "cut bad".

Commissioner Bradley stated that he would be in favor of rescinding the assessment in its entirety as the grass had been cut and even the notes state "cut bad".

Commissioner Spano-Madden agreed with the comments by Commissioner Bradley.

Chairman Vande Linde agreed that by the notes stating "cut bad" that shows that the grass was cut and therefore compliant.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER WIGEN, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SPANO-MADDEN, IN CASE 15-51V, TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL RESCIND THE \$300 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

#### THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. CASE 15-42V – JEFF AND GLORIA EMMERICH – 12912 MARIGOLD STREET NW – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION – 08-31-24-42-0040 (AGENDA ITEM 16)

Neighborhood Coordinator Kristin DeGrande reviewed the background on the case. She stated that the next three agenda items are very similar and the pending assessments are for expired rental licenses for properties owned by the Emmerichs in Coon Rapids. She noted that the notices were sent to the property owner and a compliance date was given of May. She noted that the notices were sent to the property owner out of state and the agent in Rogers. She advised that there was no communication and no returned mail so the citations were charged. She noted that a second round of citations were sent and at that time, the property owner and agent called to City Hall and the properties were brought into compliance by June 11<sup>th</sup>. She noted that in regard to the second set of citations, half the fee could have been charged but City staff waived those fees.

Ben Emmerich, son of Jeff and Gloria Emmerich, stated that he is not present to deny the fact that the licenses were not renewed in timely fashion. He stated that his family and his parents suffered a series of unfortunate events. He recalled receiving the notice in February and noted that he manages his parents 12 rental properties, three of them in Coon Rapids. He stated that in normal process when he receives those renewals he would normally get to that in March, since received in February. He stated that there are seven rental licenses that he needs to purchase in the twin cities. He provided detail on several medical issues that arose between his parents and himself during the month of February through May. He stated that during this time his parents called his wife after the first citation was issued in April and because there were multiple rental

licenses due, she attempted to mail the licenses she believed were due but had not seen the Coon Rapids properties. He stated that he is not trying to make excuses and asked that the Board review the record as they have owned the properties in 2006 and have never been late with any previous rental licenses and have always had a zero score on the rental inspections. He stated that he attended one of the first classes for property management that had been offered and noted that this has been a hard year for his family and himself. He asked for assistance from the Board.

Chairman Vande Linde stated that the testimony would be used for this case along with the next two cases from this property owner on the agenda.

Commissioner Bradley stated that he is very sorry to hear of the personal tragedies and of his family. He stated that these are income-generated properties and stated that perhaps it would be beneficial to turn these properties over to a management company.

Mr. Emmerich stated that his father in-law had offered to help with those duties but was told that he would need to have hip surgery in June. He stated that he did not know they were in this situation until it was too late. He stated that he immediately called once he received the second set of notifications and he would have filed the paperwork sooner but his wife's grandmother died that week and they mailed the papers when they returned.

Commissioner Bradley stated that a lot of those problems are continuing as there are continued health problems and asked how Mr. Emmerich ensures that the management of these properties will be adequate while these problems continue.

Mr. Emmerich stated that he is unsure how things could get worse, noting that they seem to be on a rebound for the time being. He stated that mentally he is on top of what is supposed to be doing and physically he is hiring more people to assist as well.

Commissioner Bradley asked if there is a plan on how things will be taken care of if he is unable to do it. He stated that the ultimate goal is for his well-being and for compliance.

Mr. Emmerich stated that he has a system of checks and balances installed through a rent right program. He stated that they did utilize a property management company in the early 2000's but had been taken advantage of because his parents live out of state. He noted that there are dates and reminders setup in the program to alert him as to when things need to be renewed.

Commissioner Bradley stated that seven rental properties is a lot and stated that there should be a plan in place, or a way that if there is a problem things can still be taken care of, as the properties are important assets to his family.

Mr. Emmerich stated that this series of events was a perfect storm, noting that he has been assisting his parents since 2003 and he has managed hundreds of tenants, noting that he has only had to do one eviction. He stated that there are tenants that have lived in their properties for six or seven years, noting that two of those properties are in Coon Rapids. He stated that he likes what he does and enjoys the process of assisting renters and the community. He appreciated the concern and stated that he will talk this over with his wife to ensure there is a backup plan. He noted that he now has a number cheat sheet for his wife to use as well.

Chairman Vande Linde stated that the extenuating circumstances are vast but the Board needs to determine if City staff follows the procedure. He noted that it took about 1.5 months for a response to the City. He stated that an oversight would be that the paperwork was sent to the wrong city, but he had a problem with the length of response time. He recognized that the properties have been compliant and did not doubt that the property owner is a good landlord.

Mr. Emmerich stated that he believes that the City followed the correct procedure but did not recall seeing the \$300 citation notice, although he did acknowledge that they did receive the warning that the license was going to expire.

Chairman Vande Linde stated that the citation for the \$600 fine was sent to South Carolina.

Ms. Drabczak stated that an original is to the record of owner and a duplicate was sent to the agent.

Ms. DeGrande stated that the zip code is the same but acknowledged that it does say South Carolina.

Commissioner Spano-Madden stated that it seems this is just the \$300 and not the additional \$300.

Commissioner Thorup noted that there are multiple rental licenses and only the Coon Rapids properties were not received.

Commissioner Wigen stated that this is an income property and while she has sympathy for the property owner, she believes the fees should be charged.

Commissioner Bradley empathized with the personal tragedy but noted that rental properties are a business and things need to be done.

Commissioner Spano-Madden stated that City staff did everything they were tasked with doing.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SPANO-MADDEN, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER WIGENS, IN CASE 15-42V, TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL AFFIRM THE \$300 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. CASE 15-43V – JEFF AND GLORIA EMMERICH – 3749 123<sup>RD</sup> LANE NW – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION – 08-31-24-21-0063 (AGENDA ITEM 17)

Chairman Vande Linde noted that Ben Emmerich presented testimony in the previous case that also applies to this case.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER THORUP, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER WIGEN, IN CASE 15-43V, TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL AFFIRM THE \$300 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11. CASE 15-44V – JEFF AND GLORIA EMMERICH – 11990 ORCHID STREET NW – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION – 08-31-24-42-0040 (18)

Chairman Vande Linde stated that Ben Emmerich provided testimony for this case in a previous case, which extends to this case.

Ben Emmerich commented that as landlords and property managers it is sometimes very hard to maintain the integrity of tenants, property value, and condition and for every property manager of his caliber there are a dozen that do not care. He stated that he has maintained a high standard in Coon Rapids and his tenants have not been a problem to the City, neighbors, or himself. He stated that there are numerous landlords that attempt to thwart the system, circumventing fees and fines, noting that he is not one of those. He stated that when people such as the Board are put in their position there is a reason why, noting that people are put in that position because they are capable of being compassionate and have understanding that the law is not always black and white. He greatly appreciated the time he was given to present his case and hoped that the Board appreciates the responsibility that they have in being human deciders of people based on a black and white law system. He stated that while he does not agree with affirming the assessments he will comply.

Chairman Vande Linde appreciated the input from Mr. Emmerich and echoed the comments the other Commissioners have made in sympathizing with the hardships the Emmerich family has had to endure. He hoped that the conditions improve for the family and that they continue to be great landlords in the City. He stated that the Board volunteers for their position and they have to judge whether or not the City staff follows the proper procedure. He stated that there was nothing in front of the Board that would allow them to exercise anything other than the letter of the law. He thanked Mr. Emmerich for allowing other residents to be considered before his cases.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER BRADLEY, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER THORUP, IN CASE 15-44V, TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL AFFIRM THE \$300 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER THORUP, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SPANO-MADDEN, TO BRIEFLY RECESS THE MEETING AT 10:22 P.M. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chairman Vande Linde reconvened the meeting at 10:26 p.m.

12. CASE 15-28V – USMAN MIAN – 1290 105<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE NW – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION - 23-31-24-24-0074 (AGENDA ITEM 2)

Neighborhood Coordinator Kristin DeGrande reviewed the background on the case. She stated that the assessment was in relation to a citation for long grass in May, noting that this was a vacant property. She stated that upon reinspection the property was not compliant, although the grass had been cut prior to the mowing crew arriving.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER BRADLEY, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SPANO-MADDEN, IN CASE 15-28V, TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL AFFIRM THE \$300 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

13. CASE 15-30V – NERA MURATOVIC – 12334 NORWAY STREET NW – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION – 12-31-24-22-0037 (AGENDA ITEM 4)

Neighborhood Coordinator Kristin DeGrande reviewed the background on the case. She stated that City staff knocked on the door when visiting the property to investigate a possible unlicensed rental property. She stated that a violation for parking off pavement was issued and upon reinspection there were then two cars parked off pavement. She stated that a second citation was issued and upon and reinspection there were then three cars parked off pavement, so the second set of fees were charged. She stated that a third citation was sent as well but noted that was not included in this case because the property owner has not yet appealed that citation. She noted that the property owner also had \$4,500 charged against the property for rental license violations but noted that the homeowner has since been able to prove that they have lived at the property the entire time and simply had not claimed homestead status, therefore those fees are being administratively reviewed.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER THORUP, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SPANO-MADDEN, IN CASE 15-30V, TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL AFFIRM THE \$900 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

14. CASE 15-31V – LIQUENDA ALLOTEY – 1040 105<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE NW – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION - 23-31-24-42-0037 (AGENDA ITEM 5)

Housing Inspector Leah Drabczak stated that staff was inspecting the property along with a Conexus disconnect notice, which prompted a water shutoff notice and that is when staff spoke with the current tenant. She stated that the property owner was issued a citation for operating a rental without proper licensing. She stated that the owner did not contact the City and the fees escalated to \$2,100 over the course of the citations being issued. She noted that there is also \$1,121.61 in delinquent utility charges. She stated that the property owner lives in Texas and has never called City staff.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER THORUP, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER WIGEN, IN CASE 15-31V, TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL AFFIRM THE \$2,100 ASSESSMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

15. CASE 15-32V – KATIE AND ANTHONY FICOCELLO – 11434 NORTH HEIGHTS DRIVE NW – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION – 16-31-24-13-0096 (AGENDA ITEM 6)

Neighborhood Coordinator Kristin DeGrande reviewed the background on the case. She stated that Anoka County records shows the property in the foreclosure status, which began in February. She noted that this case was in regard to a long grass citation.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER WIGEN, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SPANO-MADDEN, IN CASE 15-32V, TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL AFFIRM THE \$300 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

16. CASE 15-33V – ANDREA WAYTASHEK – 9748 FOLEY BOULEVARD – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION – 25-31-24-24-0019 (AGENDA ITEM 7)

Neighborhood Coordinator Kristin DeGrande reviewed the background on the case. She stated that she and Assistant City Attorney Westervelt met earlier and have decided to administratively remove the fees associated with this case.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SPANO-MADDEN, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER THORUP, IN CASE 15-33V, TO STRIKE THE CASE FROM THE AGENDA.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

17. CASE 15-34V – MICHAEL GROVER – 10740 GROUSE STREET NW – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION – 22-31-24-11-0016 (AGENDA ITEM 8)

Neighborhood Coordinator Kristin DeGrande reviewed the background on the case. She stated that this property is vacant and in foreclosure, noting the citation was for long grass.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER BRADLEY, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER THORUP, IN CASE 15-34V, TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL AFFIRM THE \$300 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

18. CASE 15-35V – CHARLES OKUSANYA – 1562 119<sup>TH</sup> LANE NW – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION – 11-31-24-32-0102 (AGENDA ITEM 9)

Neighborhood Coordinator Kristin DeGrande reviewed the background on the case. She stated that in past meetings, \$150 is charged whenever a property owner receives two long grass citations in one growing season but are compliant on the violations. She noted that the property owner complied with both citations but upon the second violation, \$150 is charged.

Commissioner Thorup understood the amount to be \$150 and asked if interest accrued between August 5<sup>th</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> should also be mentioned.

Ms. DeGrande stated that the interest does not accrue until the assessment is affirmed.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER THORUP, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER WIGEN, IN CASE 15-35V, TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL AFFIRM THE \$150 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

19. CASE 15-36V – CHAD MORGAN – 11021 OLIVE STREET NW – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION – 14-31-24-44-0032 (AGENDA ITEM 10)

Housing Inspector Leah Drabczak stated that in November 2014 staff sent a notice for a rental license renewal, noting that the crime free certificate had also expired. She stated that at that time the owner did not hold the certificate as the agent had, and when the agent and owner separated ways, the property became noncompliant. She stated that the property was not found to be compliant and so the fees were charged and a second set of citations were issued. She stated that City staff phoned the property owner asking for certification and reviewed the case again in January and because there was not response those fees were charged and a third citation was issued. She stated that in March the owner attended the necessary class but did not turn in his certificate. She noted that staff verified attendance with the police and therefore waived the last fee.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER THORUP, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SPANO-MADDEN, IN CASE 15-36V, TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL AFFIRM THE \$900 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

20. CASE 15-37V – NANCY SKAGER – 10324 HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD NW – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION – 21-31-24-42-0078 (AGENDA ITEM 11)

Property Maintenance Inspector Trevor White stated that on May 20<sup>th</sup> a citation was issued for long grass, and upon reinspection on May 28<sup>th</sup> the front yard had been mowed but the backyard remained in violation. He stated that a crew was dispatched to the property on June 3<sup>rd</sup> but could not access the backyard due to a locked gate and therefore the \$300 penalty was applied. He stated that on June 15<sup>th</sup>, a citation was issued for \$300 for expired tabs on a junk vehicle and upon reinspection on June 23<sup>rd</sup> the vehicle still had expired tabs and the fee was charged. He noted that there were also new violations for outdoor storage, junk and debris, and parking off pavement noted so new citations were issued for those violations. He stated that reinspection

occurred on July 7<sup>th</sup> and as there was no change, the fees were charged. He noted that additional citations have been issued but have not yet been appealed so they were not included in this case.

Ms. DeGrande stated that the property is in the process of foreclosure.

Mr. White recommended that the Board affirm the special assessment in the amount of \$1,800.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER THORUP, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SPANO-MADDEN, IN CASE 15-37V, TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL AFFIRM THE \$1,800 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

21. CASE 15-39V – JASON AND RONDA TWADDLE – 10558 MARTIN STREET NW – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION – 22-31-24-13-0104 (AGENDA ITEM 13)

Property Maintenance Inspector Trevor White stated that on June 3<sup>rd</sup> a citation was issued for junk and debris, parking off pavement, and expired tabs. He noted that upon reinspection, two of the items were found to be compliant but the junk and debris remained in violation and therefore the tenants were informed of abatement and the citation costs. He recommended that the Board affirm the \$300 citation fee and \$307.50 abatement costs for a total assessment of \$607.50.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SPANO-MADDEN, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER THORUP, IN CASE 15-39V, TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL AFFIRM THE \$607.50 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

22. CASE 15-40V – ANDREW GABATINO – 3356 115<sup>TH</sup> LANE NW – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION – 17-31-24-11-0107 (AGENDA ITEM 14)

Neighborhood Coordinator Kristin DeGrande reviewed the background on the case. She stated that this was a citation for long grass and the mowing crew could not get to the backgrad to mow because of a locked gate, noting that the full \$300 was charged for noncompliance.

Commissioner Spano-Madden referenced a written response from the homeowner.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER THORUP, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER WIGEN, IN CASE 15-40V, TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL AFFIRM THE \$300 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

23. CASE 15-47V – BRIANNA ROBINSON – 2263 110<sup>TH</sup> LANE NW – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION – 15-31-24-33-0056 (AGENDA ITEM 21)

Neighborhood Coordinator Kristin DeGrande reviewed the background on the case. She stated that similar to a previous case two citations had been issued for long grass during a growing season and while the property was brought into compliance on both incidents, a fee of \$150 is still recommended to be charged.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SPANO-MADDEN, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER THORUP, IN CASE 15-47V, TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL AFFIRM THE \$150 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

24. CASE 15-48V – CITI MORTGAGE INC – 798 NORTHDALE BOULEVARD NW – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION – 14-31-24-11-0015 (AGENDA ITEM 22)

Neighborhood Coordinator Kristin DeGrande noted that there is a packet on the desk for the Board, which includes the full appeal with attachments.

Housing Inspector Leah Drabczak stated that the foreclosure process began in May of 2010 and since that time City staff have had numerous code enforcement issues and contact with the property. She stated that per City Code the citation is valued at the highest tier of \$2,400 due to history and length of violations. She recommend that the Board affirm the \$2,400 assessment in its entirety.

Commissioner Bradley stated that this is one of thousands of properties in foreclosure and this is nothing new.

Commissioner Thorup asked if the \$2,400 fee was included in an affidavit of additional costs during foreclosure sale.

Chairman Vande Linde stated that the charges were not assessed at that time.

Commissioner Bradley stated that there should have been an alert in the assessment search.

Housing Inspector Leah Drabczak stated that the unit was occupied with squatters after the tenants vacated. She stated that staff was there last January disconnecting utilities and had the bank on phone asking for permission to vacate the squatters with police assistance because of proximity to the nearby school and the drug activity but the bank would not give permission. She stated that staff could not get cooperation with bank.

Ms. DeGrande stated that she had a conversation with the bank stating that the items should be moved inside to become compliant. She noted that the bank did eventually clean up the property, the City did not abate the property.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER WIGEN, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER BRADLEY, IN CASE 15-48V, TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL AFFIRM THE \$2,400 ASSESSMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

25. CASE 15-49V – CARLA ITIE – 10253 MISSISSIPPI BOULEVARD NW – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION – 21-31-24-43-0003 (AGENDA ITEM 23)

Housing Inspector Leah Drabczak that there was a February 24<sup>th</sup> police report which provided photographs of the violations which included expired tabs and parking off pavement. She stated that upon reinspection one vehicle remained in violation and therefore only one fee was charged. She stated that a second citation was charged and upon reinspection the property was found to be compliant therefore only half of that \$600 was charged. She recommended that the Board affirm the \$600 assessment in its entirety.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER THORUP, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER WIGEN, IN CASE 15-49V, TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL AFFIRM THE \$600 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

26. CASE 15-52V – MARVIN HANSON – 10841 KUMQUAT ST NW – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OBJECTION – 24-31-24-21-0100

Property Maintenance Inspector Heather Rodgers stated that on May 21<sup>st</sup> staff issued five citations to the property including expired tabs on inoperable vehicle, junk and debris, junk cargo van, major recreational vehicles, and dismantled trailers. She noted that upon reinspection all five violations remained and staff spoke with the resident to advise them of the required abatement. She stated that the residents were given another week to remove the inoperable vehicles and major recreational equipment and upon reinspection the property was in compliance. She noted that the appeal of the resident is in regard to the boat citation, which was compliant by the necessary date and therefore had not been charged a fee. She recommended that the Board affirm the fees and abatement costs.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER THORUP, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER WIGEN, IN CASE 15-52V, TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL AFFIRM THE \$1,037 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

OTHER BUSINESS

NONE.

27. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER BRADLEY, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SPANO-MADDEN, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 11:15 P.M. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted, Amanda Staple Board of Adjustment and Appeals Secretary



October 9, 2015

Coon Rapids City Council Coon Rapids City Hall 11155 Robinson Drive Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Dear City Council members,

We are writing to appeal the Board of Adjustments and Appeals decision on our variance request for a small section of our side-yard fence. Attached you will find our responses to the items called for in city ordinance 11-1504.7 (1) (b) that allows the City Council the privilege to make a final determination on our application. We have also provided a rebuttal to the findings of the Board of Adjustments and Appeals regarding city ordinance 11-304.9 for variances.

We believe we have provided sufficient rationale to address all aspects of the variance and appeal process in these attached documents. We also ask that you take into consideration that this small 150 square foot piece of our property means much more to us than to any actual use by the city and as such we ask that you please give us the benefit of the doubt in this case.

Sincerely.

John and Kathy Brandstetter

10441 Goldenrod St NW

Coon Rapids, MN 55448

Received
Coon Rapids
OCT I g 21/15
Department

Granting of the variance meets all of the criteria listed in city ordinance 11-1504.7 (1) (b):

1. Requirement: The granting of the variance will not be detrimental to the public safety, health or welfare, or injurious to other property or improvements in the neighborhood in which the property is located;

The proposed fence location on the property right-of-way does not create any additional public safety, health or welfare concerns. A non-conforming fence had existed in this location for over 20 years. In addition, the Anoka County Foley Boulevard reconstruction project has changed the through-street that runs along this property line into a cul-de-sac with very low pedestrian or vehicle traffic.

The proposed fence location is not detrimental to other property or improvements in the neighborhood. The variance only impacts property along a newly formed cul-de-sac with no other properties bordering the location of the fence. The petitioner has provided written and in-person testimony from neighbors attesting to their approval of the variance.

2. Requirement: The conditions upon which the request for a variance is based are unique to the property for which the variance is sought and are generally not applicable to other property;

The conditions that make this request unique to the property and that are not generally applicable to other properties include: The fence was removed for the creation of a new cul-desac in an established neighborhood. Only a portion of the continuous stretch of the side fence was impacted; the unaffected portion is legally non-conforming and will remain as such. The variance will minimize the inconsistency between the non-conforming section and the rebuilt section.

3. Requirement: The literal interpretation of the provisions of this Section would deprive the applicant of rights commonly enjoyed by other properties in the same zoning district;

Denying the variance will mean that a portion of the continuous fence that runs along the road right-of-way will have to follow the setback while the remaining legally non-conforming section will not. It would be considered rare that a continuous segment of fence would be governed in part by a legal non-conformance and the remainder of the same fence segment would not be governed by the same privilege.

4. Requirement: The special conditions and circumstances do not result from the actions of the applicant;

This circumstance was not a result of the actions of the applicant. It was a direct result of the Anoka County Foley Boulevard reconstruction project.

5. Requirement: Because of the particular natural surroundings, shape, or topographical conditions of the specific property involved, unusual hardship to the owner would result, as distinguished from a mere inconvenience, if the strict letter of these regulations were carried out.

Without the variance, the small change in right-of-way caused by the Anoka County Foley Boulevard reconstruction project would cause the loss of a greater amount of property than has already been lost to eminent domain alone. The resulting shape of the fence line would not only aesthetically unappealing in this neighborhood, but it also isolates a 35 foot section of the yard behind a 5 foot section of fence along the non-conforming section of fence.

Rebuttal to Board of Adjustments and Appeals findings regarding city ordinance 11-304.9 for variances.

1. The variance meets the general purpose and intent of the ordinance. The general purpose and intent of the setback ordinance was described in Planning Case 08-03 March 4, 2008 is described as "to allow for snow storage, safety and maintenance of public property."

<u>Snow storage</u>: The proposed variance allows for snow storage with the ample green space provided around the cul-de-sac. In addition, the location of the proposed fence does not cause any inconvenience or additional resources required by the city for plowing the cul-de-sac. Staff has not provided any evidence to the contrary. We reference our neighbor Mr. Charles Nevala; a city employee and snowplow operator, who has confirmed that the location of the fence will in no way impede snow removal or storage.

<u>Safety and maintenance of public property</u>: The proposed variance does not inhibit the safety and maintenance of public property. Any utility or drainage maintenance is covered by city code 11-1204.2 (1) which does allow for a fence within this maintenance area. The proposed fence is separated from the closest point to the cul-de-sac with a right-of-way sufficient to gain access to the cul-de-sac and curb. The property owner is responsible for mowing and maintaining the grass area within the right-of-way.

- 2. The demonstration of "practical difficulties": This continuous section of fence already contains a thirty-five foot section of non-conforming fence that is permitted to remain non-conforming. To not grant the variance will cause the new section of fence to be further out of alignment with the existing non-conforming fence and will therefore detract from the essential character of the locality. Granting the variance minimizes the alignment issue in this continuous section of fence. There are no other options available to the homeowner to rectify this situation other than to give up their rights to the legally non-conforming section of the fence.
- The variance is the minimum required to make reasonable use of the property. Because the
  variance is for only an approximate three foot by fifty foot section of property, it is not
  reasonable to reduce the variance to any amount less than the full three feet that are
  requested.
- 4. Consistency with the comprehensive plan. The property is zoned Low-Density Residential-2. The planning case that originated the setback ordinance (PC 08-03) describes this setback as minor in nature and therefore the variance is also minor in nature. A variance of this minor nature is not inconsistent with the property zoning and would not change the essential character of the locality. Granting the variance would allow us to build a fence that is more consistent with the existing non-conforming section of fence to which this section of fence would align with.

IN THE MATTER OF APPLICATION FOR A THREE-FOOT SETBACK VARIANCE FROM CITY CODE SECTION 11-1204.3(2), JOHN AND KATHY BRANDSTETTER, PETITIONER, FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 10441 GOLDENROD STREET, COON RAPIDS, MINNESOTA.

**CASE 15-53V** 

STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR DENIAL PURSUANT TO MINN. STAT. § 15.99, Subd. 2.

This matter came before the Board of Adjustment and Appeals on October 1, 2015, for a final decision subject to appeal to the City Council within ten days.

Based upon the testimonies received and upon all other information brought before the Board, the Board hereby denies the application based on the following reason(s):

- 1. The proposed fence setback of zero feet from the public street right-of-way does not meet the general purpose and intent of the setback ordinance to provide for snow storage, safety and maintenance of public property.
- 2. The petitioner has not demonstrated that there are practical difficulties in locating the fence at the required setback of three feet from the public right-of-way.
- 3. The petitioner has not demonstrated that the variance being requested is the minimum variance necessary to make reasonable use of the property. There are no physical constraints to locating the fence at the required setback line.
- 4. The property can be used in a reasonable manner without the granting of the requested variance. The property is zoned Low-Density Residential-2; the existing development on the property meets or exceeds the minimum development standards of this zoning district.

This decision will become a final agency decision unless appealed to the Coon Rapids City Council within ten days.

Adopted by the Coon Rapids Board of Adjustment and Appeals on a 5 to 6 vote this 1st day of October 2015.

Aaron Vande Linde, Chair

ATTEST.



## TITLE 11 LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS

## CHAPTER 11-300 ADMINISTRATION

#### (VARIANCE PROCEDURE AND REQUIREMENTS)

## 11-304.9 Variances.

- (1) When used; Process. A request under Minn. Stat. 462.357 to vary from the standards of this title. A public hearing is required, and the Board of Adjustment and Appeals is the decision maker, subject to appeal to the City Council.
- (2) Standards for Approval. A variance may be granted after the following findings are made:
  - (a) The variance is in harmony with the general purposes and intent of the ordinance from which the variance is requested.
    - (b) The variance is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.
  - (c) The applicant demonstrates there are practical difficulties in complying with the ordinance from which the variance is sought. Practical difficulties include, but are not limited to, inadequate access to direct sunlight for solar energy systems. Economic considerations alone do not constitute practical difficulties. In determining this standard, all the following must be met:
    - (i) Unless the variance is granted, the property cannot be used in a reasonable manner. If a property can be used reasonably without the granting of a variance, it can be used in a reasonable manner.
    - (ii) The variance requested must be the minimum to make reasonable use of the property.
    - (iii) The plight of the applicant or landowner is due to circumstances unique to the property not created by the applicant or landowner.
    - (iv) The variance, if granted, will not alter the essential character of the locality.
  - (d) Special exemption for earth-sheltered construction: Variances must be granted for earth sheltered construction as defined in Minn. Stat. §216C.06, subd. 14, when in harmony with the ordinance.

Revised City Code - 1982

Minn. Stat. 462.357 provides that: The board or governing body as the case may be may impose conditions in the granting of variances. A condition must be directly related to and must bear a rough proportionality to the impact created by the variance.

An approved variance has no time limit unless specified as a condition of the variance.



City Council Regular 9.

**Meeting Date:** 10/20/2015

**Subject:** Ordinance Introduction, Sale of Residential Lot, 11400 Hanson Blvd.

From: Matt Brown, Economic

**Development Coordinator** 

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Council is asked to introduce an ordinance authorizing the sale of a single-family lot at 11400 Hanson Boulevard.

## **DISCUSSION**

The property at 11400 Hanson Boulevard has been owned by the City since at least 1978. While it is unclear why the City acquired the lot, Staff believes that the City may have wanted to construct a street through this area. Staff determined that public ownership of the lot is no longer necessary and listed it for sale earlier this year. The Anoka County HRA would like to purchase the lot and relocate an existing house that will be acquired as part of the Foley Boulevard reconstruction project. Anoka County has offered \$40,000 for the lot, which reflects current market value.

The Council is asked to introduce an ordinance authorizing conveyance of the property. The City's Charter requires an ordinance for any land sale. The Council will consider adoption of the ordinance, along with execution of a Purchase Agreement, at its November 3 meeting.

## RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Council:

- a. Conduct a public hearing.
- b. Introduce the ordinance authorizing conveyance of the property at 11400 Hanson Boulevard to the Anoka County Housing and Redevelopment Authority for \$40,000.

#### **Attachments**

Location Map
Hanson Sale Ord





#### ORDINANCE NO.

# AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF REAL ESTATE, LOT 9, BLOCK 1, HARMON OAKS

#### **Preamble:**

- A. The City is the owner of real estate described as Lot 9, Block 1, Harmon Oaks, Anoka County, Minnesota. (the "Property").
- B. The City Council finds that the Property is no longer needed to for public purposes.
- C. The City Council finds that the highest and best use of the Property is single-family residential and the City has listed the Property for sale for construction of a single-family home.
- D. The Anoka County Housing and Redevelopment Authority has agreed to purchase the property for \$40,000 and relocate a single-family home to the property.

## Now, therefore, the City of Coon Rapids does ordain:

Section 1. The conveyance of the following property to the Anoka County Housing and Redevelopment Authority is hereby authorized: Lot 9, Block 1, Harmon Oaks, Anoka County, Minnesota.

Section 2. The Mayor and City Manager are hereby authorized to execute a Purchase Agreement, deed, and all other necessary documents to effectuate the conveyance.

Section 3. The proceeds of the sale, \$40,000, are directed to be paid into the City's development fund.

Introduced this 20 <sup>th</sup> day of October, 2015.		
Adopted this	_ day of	2015.
		Jerry Koch, Mayor
Attest:		
Joan Lenzmeier,	City Clerk	



City Council Regular 10.

**Meeting Date:** 10/20/2015

**Subject:** Consider Purchase of Rescue Trucks

**From:** Joan Lenzmeier, City Clerk

## **INTRODUCTION**

Staff is recommending purchase of two rescue trucks through a contract for cooperative purchasing.

## **DISCUSSION**

Staff is recommending the purchase of two (2) 2016 Rosenbauer rescue trucks utilizing a cooperative purchasing contract with the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) at a base cost of \$139,791 per truck. These will replace two 2006 Toynes rescue trucks. Staff anticipates advertising the existing trucks for sale through the League of Minnesota Cities website.

The price for these vehicles comes from a request for proposal executed by H-GAC and will expire on December 1, 2015. Additionally, the ability to order 2016 Ford chassis will end soon. Thus, staff is requesting that the order be placed on Wednesday, October 21, 2015 with anticipated delivery in July of 2016.

Funding for the replacement trucks has been included in the proposed 2016 City budget. While the budget will not be approved until December, the City can realize significant savings by participating in the purchasing contract now rather than waiting until next year to order the trucks.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the purchase of two replacement Rosenbauer Rescue Trucks.

## **BUDGET IMPACT:**

The proposed 2016 budget includes funds in the amount of \$460,000 for the purchase of these Rosenbauer Rescue Trucks as well as \$80,000 anticipated for trade in or sale of the old vehicles.



City Council Regular 11.

**Meeting Date:** 10/20/2015

Subject: Dale Koch, 2020 127th Avenue From: Joan Lenzmeier, City Clerk

## **INTRODUCTION**

Mr. Dale Koch, 2020 127th Avenue addressed Council and inquired as to the car allowance provided to the City Manager and the appropriateness of the separation payment authorized by Council for former City Manager Matt Fulton.

## **DISCUSSION**

Mr. Dale Koch asked the City Council why the car allowance provided in City Manager Matt Stemwedel's employment agreement was less than what was provided for in previous City Manager contracts. The car allowance is one portion of the Mr. Stemwedel's total compensation and the City negotiated a contract with Mr. Stemwedel that, in its entirety, provides for competitive compensation when compared to similar positions in the metropolitan area.

In regard to Mr. Koch's second question, pursuant to Mr. Fulton's Employment Agreement in Paragraph 17, in the event that Mr. Fulton was terminated at the request of the City during such time that Mr. Fulton was able to perform the duties of City Manager, the City agreed to pay Mr. Fulton a cash payment equal to six (6) months salary.

The City requested that Mr. Fulton resign and, pursuant to the terms of Mr. Fulton's Employment Agreement, the City Council approved a Separation Agreement which included approval of the separation payment.

## **RECOMMENDATION**